

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

No. XLIV.—VOL. II.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1856.

PRICE TWOPENCE.
STAMPED, 3d.

NAPOLEON'S HEIR.

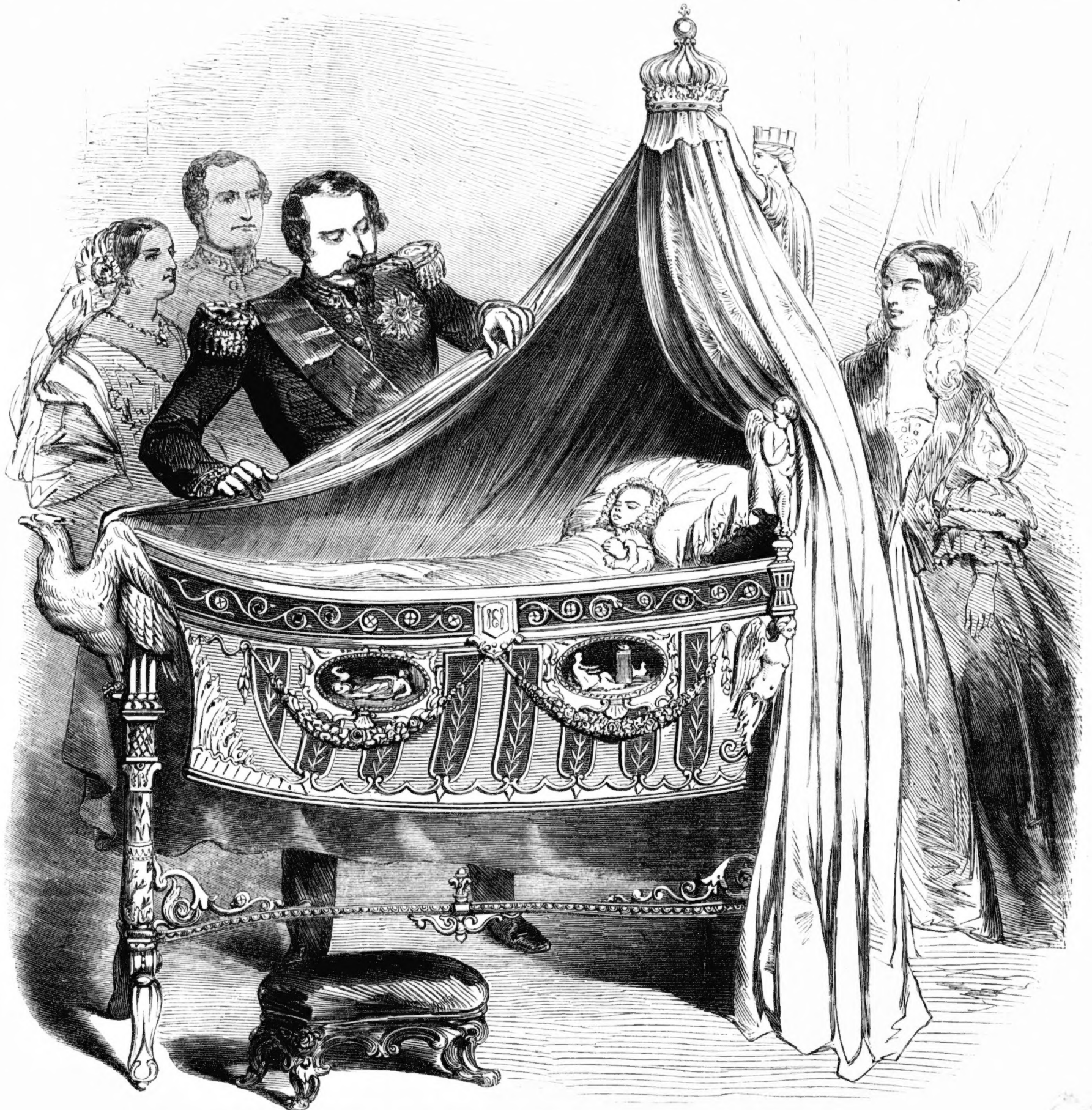
THE great event in Paris may be conveniently viewed under three aspects—with reference to the Past, the Present, and the Future. We shall proceed on this plan accordingly; for we apprehend that nobody of any opinions doubts the great importance of what has occurred, or denies that it is entitled to the most deliberate consideration.

The French Revolution, as Mr. Carlyle has often said, is *the* modern fact,—not merely a mighty event, but one of the transcendent kind, which alters the face of affairs so as to destroy common precedents. It is useless, now, to talk of royal “pretenders” as if they stood on the same ground as our Stuarts in their exile. The French Revolution did not only change a dynasty: it altered a system. The difficulty of the Legitimists is not that their throne is usurped, but that their country is as much changed as if the sea had rolled over it. They were brought back, when France was exhausted by a long war, and just beaten worse than ever, at the end of it. But they never took root again: the best proof of which is that on each occasion—1830 and 1848—they fell so suddenly. It took years—although

they were years of frenzy—even to destroy Louis XVI. But Charles X. and Louis Philippe fell when everybody thought them stable. They fell like a man in epilepsy. We can easily see—not only that the intellectual and moral ground of their support were wanting, but that the change of property in France had struck away their roots. The Legitimists have men of property and genius, and circles as honourable to French civilisation as any; but the great mass of the peasantry and the poor are lost to the old traditions, and lost to the old status. Their affection attracts them to the memory of Napoleon I.; their position, as peasant proprietors, isolates them from the notions belonging to a *noblesse*. Thus, in both respects, they have for nearly three generations, now, been men who differ from their ancestors as much as the great-grandson of a settler in Massachusetts differs from the English yeoman, his progenitor. We are not now dealing with the question how good or bad their present position is, or how the small properties system is likely to work. Our present purposes only require us to know how the said present position affects them, politically. Their zeal for the present Emperor has proved that Napoleonism suits them better than either Republicanism or the

Bourbons of either branch. Not that we doubt that the restored Bourbons could have held the crown, if they had managed to act with the vigour in the nineteenth century that their race had showed in the sixteenth. But, unfortunately, they did not. Louis Philippe wavered—his sons wavered—when they were tried by a crisis, and the Republicans, ever active (and with an extensive *secret* organisation), seized the moment, revolutionised France, and convulsed Europe.

It is usually overlooked that the present Emperor did not succeed till Republicanism had been found wanting—wanting in men, wild in projects, and intoxicated with conceit. He had his chance in his turn. He had had the great advantage of exile and difficulty, and had learned the world. He was not hampered, like the Bourbons, with the necessity of managing a great party. He was free; free to learn and to forget. In neglect, in solitude, and dissipation, he learned himself and mankind. He believed in himself (which is not common), and when he did gain the throne—his means being just as honest as those by which Louis Philippe was banished—his first ability was shown in his making up his mind to the fact that his position was a new one, and not that of his uncle over again. He tried no new



NAPOLEON EUGENE LOUIS JEAN JOSEPH, SON OF FRANCE, IN THE CRADLE PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF PARIS TO THE EMPRESS.

conquests; he maintained friendly relations with the Great Powers. His marriage was a proof of his self-reliance; and so far in his favour, that it showed he was capable of a great passion. It is a kind of reward of his love for this woman, that he should now be rejoicing in an heir.

The period at which it happens is singularly auspicious. By his English Alliance, he has obtained a degree of favour here which one can scarcely contemplate without wonder. It expresses itself, of course, now and then, in a ludicrous servility of adulation; but we know that all success meets this kind of thing; and that he does deserve proper civility from a nation which owes so much to his services as an Ally. We have reason in one point to be thankful for his having an heir. The child is born into a friendly Alliance with England, as it were. His birth is likely to be favourable to peace also. And, as a nation, our only business with any foreign potentate is to treat him with respect proportionate to that which his own countrymen feel for him; and regulated by the degree of obligation which his conduct to others imposes upon us. We believe that the mass of the French people do believe in the Emperor; and whether it be only as a bulwark against Socialism or what not, that does not affect the political question. England owes nothing to the Republicans of the Continent; but to Napoleon she owes her present prospect of an honourable peace. This is our answer to the Reds; and as for the mere valets who throw up their hats for all Emperors, we steer equally clear of them, on the other side. All stability in Europe that gives time for social reforms and social cultivations, is *per se* a blessing. So far, and no farther, Napoleonism is respectable in our eyes.

It would be impossible for any man of ordinary speculativeness to avoid wondering what will be the destiny of a youngster born amidst such anxious watching and wonder as has scarce hung over the cradle of a child for ages. How significant of the chaotic state of European traditions is the whole position! The boy, now entitled the Son of France, has scarcely any French blood in his veins; is sprung in the male line from Italian ancestors; in the female, from Spanish and Scottish. Nor will the birth be more cordially hailed anywhere than in a nation which spent millions, and incurred millions, in driving the founder of his race from the throne.

It is obvious, that the having an heir is a circumstance which will tend to make Napoleon draw closer to the hereditary system in Europe. From the revolutionary parties he can hope nothing, but, supported as he is by the mass, he will more and more every year be great in the eyes of other potentates; and his son, bred to expect the fourth succession to a regal name, will be free from the odour of the *parvenu*, as times go, in the most august nostrils. The line may thus unite in themselves a popular foundation with a hereditary *prestige* before the century is out. Assuming that Napoleon's great object is his dynasty, it will, meanwhile, be his interest to carry out, as emperor, those social reforms which he studied, as "pretender," and to keep in peace with nations which, like his own, are under monarchical government. To be sure, Louis Philippe's family projects were ruinous enough; but Louis Philippe's power never stood on so broad a basis: he was popular with the *bourgeoisie*, but was slighted by the high noblesse, and coldly received by the bulk of the nation. His successor unites the support of the men of "order" (which includes the church) with the support of the wide poor population. The Republicans are far over-matched in force by his army; while the Legitimists would rather see even him on the throne than a Republic.

The position, then, of Napoleon is an eminently *practical* one. It is not in harmony with what are called "advanced" ideas, nor yet with ancient and hereditary ideas; it just hits an epoch weary of speculation in politics, and bent on the security of property; an age of commerce; a period whose poetic men are melancholy, and its clever men cynical; a period of transition which scarcely knows what to think of the past, or what to expect from the future. It would, indeed, be absurd to predict the permanence for ever of any dynasty, least of all a new dynasty, in times like ours. If Napoleon show the shrewdness of management he has shown hitherto, we consider his own position safe enough. Should he live to protect his son's youth, and see him into manhood, the risks would still be great. Should the heir himself be a true man of genius into the bargain—what might not his partisans hope? He might be the Hugh Capet of a new dynasty. But how many and great the chances of illness, death, and innumerable other strokes of fate and chance, between his cradle and the French throne!

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

EARLY on the morning of Sunday, the Empress gave birth to a son. Full particulars of this important event, and of the ceremonies consequent thereon, will be found in another column. M. Paul Dubois, surgeon, accoucheur to the Empress, was promoted to the grade of Commander of the Legion of Honour by Imperial decree.

In honour of the birth of the Imperial Prince, the following theatres were opened to the public free, on Monday, at two o'clock:—The Opéra, Théâtre Français, Opéra Comique, Odéon, Théâtre Lyrique, Vaudeville, Variétés, Gymnase, Palais Royal, Port St. Martin, Gaité, Ambigu Comique, Cirque Impérial, and Cirque Napoléon. Long before the hour appointed, an immense number of people had assembled outside the different houses. The cost of these entertainments was at the expense of the Civil List, and at all the theatres the first *artistes* performed.

On Sunday afternoon the Emperor paid a visit to Prince Jerome, who for some days previously had been seriously indisposed. Great doubt still exists respecting his ultimate recovery.

It is expected that a regency law will shortly be proclaimed in France. The Regency will be delegated to the Empress, assisted by a council, composed, doubtless, of the princes of the Imperial family and high functionaries.

The Minister of War has just transmitted to the civil and military authorities orders for calling into active service the 140,000 young soldiers of the class of 1855. These young men must be *en route* to join their different corps between the 31st instant and the 5th of April.

Baron de Manteuffel has arrived in Paris, to take part in the Conferences as the Plenipotentiary of Prussia. He is accompanied by Baron de Rechenberg, First Secretary of Legation, and is quartered at the Prussian Embassy.

Counts Walewski and Flahault are spoken of for the Embassy at St. Petersburg. Meantime, it is stated with certainty that it has been decided to send the Count de Morny on a special mission to St. Petersburg almost immediately. Of course this news assumes that peace will speedily be made.

A slight improvement has manifested itself in the commercial situation of Paris, which will necessarily assume a greater development when peace is proclaimed. Orders are daily received from Russia, both in Paris

and at Lyons, and the approaching coronation of the Emperor Alexander II. promises to afford the manufacturers of both cities employment during the whole spring.

SPAIN.

THE Duke de la Victoria, who is colonel of the 1st Regiment of Cavalry of the National Guard, reviewed them on the 9th inst., at the Campo de Guardias. The Duke, who was well received by the multitude, addressed them in one of his accustomed speeches, concluding with "*vivas*" for liberty and the constitutional Queen.

The new tariff plan of Señor Santa Cruz has been published, and is considered of a somewhat restrictive character.

Accounts from Manilla state that bands of brigands were scouring the country, and spreading incendiary proclamations against the Spanish.

The Carlists seem to be preparing for a new rising in Navarre and Catalonia, and several depôts of muskets made by them in those provinces have been seized.

Lord Howden has received orders from the English Government to suspend the purchase of mules and other means of transport for the Crimea.

AUSTRIA.

A FURTHER reduction in the Austrian army is announced. The firms which have so long been treating with the Government for the Lombardo-Venetian and Central Italian Railways have come to a complete understanding with the Ministers. In the course of last week the railroads passed into the hands of a company composed of the Austrian Crédit Bank, of some of the leading Italian firms and of an Anglo-French Society, at the head of which are Messrs. Rothschild, of Paris and London, Mr. Laing, M.P., &c. The news will hardly fail to create some sensation in the financial world, as it is generally known that the Rothschilds and their partisans have for many months been contending for the Italian railroads with the French Crédit Mobilier. After a long and obstinate struggle, the Rothschilds have obtained a complete victory over their rivals.

PRUSSIA.

ON the evening of the 18th instant, much excitement was caused in Berlin by the news that M. Ranner, a cousin of the Minister of Public Education, and high in office in the Ministry of the Royal House, had shot himself. Public report instantly attached to this event all sorts of causes connected with the recent events, but without ground. One brother of the deceased died young with every predisposition to insanity; another brother became deranged, and died so; and this brother has destroyed himself under the pressure of the belief that he himself was about to become so too. He was a man advanced beyond the prime of life, was well off in his pecuniary circumstances, universally respected, and only lately married. Next morning, Count Canitz, a Chamberlain of the Royal Household, shot himself. He is believed to have been guilty of intercepting, withholding, or retarding the delivery of orders from the King to the President of Police, &c.

The King, in a letter to the Minister of Justice, has denounced the duel of MM. Hinckelky and Rochow. The club called the "Jockey Club" is threatened with suppression. M. de Rochow has retired to his estate at Plessow, near Potsdam, on parole.

M. de Zedlitz Neukirch, Chief Councillor of the government at Liegnitz (Silesia), is appointed successor to M. Hinckelky in the Director Generalship of Berlin Police.

The Minister of Commerce, M. von der Heydt, fills the functions of President of the Council of Ministers during the absence of Baron de Manteuffel.

RUSSIA.

THE "Czas" says, a general levy of recruits has been ordered by the Russian Government throughout Poland, to take place about the 15th of the month.

The Russian Government has published a plan for the organisation of the new border army of Orenburg Bashkirs, not for the purpose of directly menacing the West, but apparently with the view of extending the present existing system of military colonies on the East. This army is to consist of twelve cavalry regiments and a brigade of horse artillery, composed of three active batteries.

Prince Gortschakoff is going to St. Petersburg to take part in the deliberations relative to the diplomatic attitude to be taken by Russia after the conclusion of peace; and M. de Titoff, Russian Ambassador at Stuttgart, is summoned to St. Petersburg for the same purpose.

DENMARK.

THE Minister of the United States at Copenhagen has proposed to the Danish Court the prolongation for two months of the treaty between Denmark and America on the subject of the Sound Duties, which treaty would have expired on the 26th April, and Denmark is said to have acceded.

The Countess Danner, morganatic wife of the King of Denmark, is dangerously ill.

SARDINIA.

THE King of Sardinia reached his thirty-sixth year on Friday, the 14th instant.

The greatest satisfaction was evinced at Turin at the news of the birth of the French Prince.

On Sunday afternoon King Victor Emmanuel sent the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the French Minister with his congratulations to his ally.

The Minister of War has authorised the Commander-in-Chief of the Sardinian forces in the Crimea to grant leave of absence for forty days in certain specified cases to the officers and soldiers under his orders.

SICILY.

THE King is said to have come to a definite understanding with the Holy See. His Majesty consents that the celebrated privileges of the Sicilian monarchy shall be nearly all abolished; and has accepted the brief, in virtue of which the Holy Father destroys the secular prerogatives of the Ecclesiastical Tribunal of Sicily.

The King has authorised the export of corn from the Two Sicilies.

TURKEY.

THE news from Constantinople to the 6th instant, is to the effect that the Divan, considering the remonstrances of commercial men, renounces the projected issue of one hundred millions of paper.

The immense fortune of Halil, the Sultan's brother-in-law, dead without issue, reverts to the state.

The Sultan has received the Hospodar Ghika.

Five hundred Bashi-Bazouks have been brought back from Adrianople. The state of the hospitals has improved; but we have to record the death of two French surgeons. General Mitchell has replaced General Vivian, who is still sick.

New Russian troops have arrived in Bessarabia.

AMERICA.

THE *Atlantic* steamer, which last week brought the new American Ambassador to our shores, brought also the correspondence between the United States and British Governments on the enlistment difficulty and the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, presented to the Senate by the President on the 28th ult.

The first mention of the matter occurs in a despatch from Mr. Marcy to Mr. Buchanan, dated Washington, June, 1855, and requesting Lord Clarendon's attention to the fact that a plan was on foot to enlist soldiers within the limits of the United States to serve in the British army, which was "a disregard of the sovereign rights of an independent nation, and a clear and manifest infringement of the laws of the United States."

Lord Clarendon, on the 16th of July, replies to Mr. Buchanan's note of the 6th of July, and justifies the incontestable right of the English Government to accept voluntary offers of service, but disavowing the violation of the laws of the United States, as having been committed by unauthorised agents; at the same time saying, that the enlistment should be put an end to.

On the 5th Sept. Mr. Marcy replies, and observes, that the British Government seemed to have forgotten that the United States had sovereign rights as well as municipal laws, which were entitled to respect.

Lord Clarendon replies, on the 27th Sept. that her Majesty's Government is fully aware of the obligations of international duties, and expresses his confidence that the United States Government will fail to prove

any well founded charge of disregard of sovereign rights against the British authorities, or their agents, in the United States.

On the 18th October Mr. Marcy replies, that Lord Clarendon's answer to the demand for redress, and for a violation of its laws and sovereign rights, is laconic and unsatisfactory; and further asserts that the United States Government have abundant proof that British officers and agents have transgressed the laws, and disregarded the rights of the United States, and that as a solemn duty the Government insists upon a proper satisfaction.

Two despatches of great length, resuming the whole question, conclude the correspondence.

The first, from Lord Clarendon to Mr. Crampton, dated November 16, 1855, calls upon the American Government to establish distinct charges, and to specify by name those officers and agents charged with infringing the law. To this Mr. Marcy replies, on December 28, 1855, with a disquisition on international law, supporting his views by quotations from Puffendorf, Vattel, and Hauteville, and concluding with a request, that, as the evidence is clear that Mr. Crampton has taken a prominent part in organising the recruiting scheme, the United States Government requests he be recalled—as also Mr. Barclay from the post of Consul at New York. This document was delivered to Lord Clarendon on the 29th of Jan., and the correspondence ceases.

With respect to the Central American question, the offer of the British Government to submit the question to the arbitration of a third Power, is given in a brief note from Lord Clarendon to Mr. Crampton, dated the 10th November, 1855.

The *Asia* arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday. In the American Senate, on the 3rd inst., a bill was passed authorising the construction of ten sloops of war. While debating the subject several members stated that the proposed increase had no reference to a threatened war with England, but the vessels were really needed for the protection of American commerce.

Mr. Crampton had written a letter to the Editor of the "National Intelligencer," stating that he was not instructed by Lord Clarendon to submit a proposition to arbitrate the Central American question, but only to inform Mr. Marcy that such a proposal had been made to Mr. Buchanan.

The New York commercial advices state that the tone of the English journals in their discussions of American affairs was considered less belligerent, and conducted to the opinion that there is no probability of a collision between England and America.

INDIA.

RECENT accounts state that on the 7th of February a proclamation was issued announcing the annexation of Oude, and that the King had been deposed.

The Santal rebellion has been renewed.

Lord Canning reached Madras on the 14th of February.

Lord Dalhousie was very unwell, and was to leave Calcutta for Suva immediately after the arrival of Lord Canning.

Trade was inactive and prices fluctuating, with the exception of indigo.

THE LATE DUEL IN PRUSSIA.

M. DE HINCKELDY, whose death in a duel at the hands of M. de Rochow, we last week chronicled, was formerly a councillor of the government at Merseburg; he was appointed president of police at Berlin in 1848, and has been director-general since 1854. He was also a superior privy councillor with the rank of councillor of the first class, director at the Home-office, a member of the Council of State, and decorated with twelve orders, among which were the Red Eagle of the second class, with the oak leaf and ribbon, the Order of St. John, and the Order of Hohenzollern.

The animosity of the Prussian nobility appears to have been excited against Hinckelky in consequence of a contest he was engaged in with the military power, with which the nobility is identified, and because he was, moreover, energetic in action, and the successful introducer of many wholesome institutions in the town. He was, also, the personification of a centralised police, the powers of which the nobility are striving to decentralise and get back into their own hands, for the purpose of their own petty despotism. Berlin is indebted to him for clean streets, an improved sanitary state of the lodgings of the poor, a fire-brigade, with a network of electric telegraphs all over the town, the waterworks lately erected by an English company, the baths and washhouses for the poor, an admirable system of employing criminals beneficially and profitably in the open air, and many more similar improvements; but all these had no weight with this narrow-minded caste and clique, which thinks that because they are noble, in the modern acceptance of the term, they are to have a monopoly of the King's favour, and will "suffer no rival near the throne."

The cause of the duel between M. de Hinckelky and M. de Rochow, is stated to be this: M. de Hinckelky, it seems, a few days previously, presented himself in uniform at a place where a carousal, organised by the princes of the blood and by some members of the highest nobility, was taking place, when M. de Rochow, one of the commissaries, went up to him and told him no police agents were wanted there. This led to words, and subsequently to a challenge. The duel took place in the Grunewald forest. Hinckelky's second was a head clerk in the Ministry of the Interior. Rochow's second was his own brother. The duel was with pistols. The distance was fifteen paces, and each of the adversaries could advance five paces. It was agreed that if one pistol missed fire the duel was to recommence. Hinckelky fired first, but the pistol did not go off; his adversary, who had his finger on the trigger, had just time to raise his weapon. On the second attempt both pistols went off. Rochow was not hit, but Hinckelky fell dead, the ball having pierced his heart. It is said that the second of the latter at once went to Charlottenburg to acquaint the King of the fatal event. Rochow immediately after placed himself at the disposal of the Minister of the Interior, and of the Military Commandant, at the same time requesting them to allow him to remain at large for a few days. The Berlin public are surprised that Hinckelky should have consented to fight with pistols, labouring as he did under excessive short-sightedness. His body was brought back to Berlin from Witzleben, near Charlottenburg. During the whole night before the duel, Hinckelky had been busy putting his affairs in order.

The King and Royal Princes and most of the Ministers, together with some generals, attended the funeral of the late President of Police. All the civil authorities of the town and great multitudes followed him to the grave.

The King of Prussia, with whom Hinckelky appears to have been a great favourite, knew nothing of the fatal duel until he was informed of its terrible termination.

The War.

OPERATIONS IN THE CRIMEA.

DESTRUCTION OF THE WHITE WORKS.

ON the morning of the 28th ult., it became known that the explosion of the White Works was fixed for half-past three; and that the brig in the Dockyard Creek was also to be blown up, by way of experiment, and for the particular gratification of Mr. Deane, "the infernal diver." So, soon after three, spectators began to assemble at the Redan, in front of Picket-House Hill, on Cathcart's Hill, and in other commanding positions. The ground was very heavy with mud and snow, and the cold too sharp to be pleasant. There was a certain amount of snow-balling among the pedestrians, and one or two base attacks were made upon unfortunate equestrians, who, not having snow within their reach, or a supply of ready-made snowballs in their pockets, had no choice but to charge their assailants or resort to ignominious flight. The majority of the horsemen sat ruefully awaiting the blow-up; a center for warmth would have been desirable, but the ground was most unfavourable—deep and spread with a sheet of snow, concealing holes. Half-an-hour passed; feet were very cold, noses very blue, fingers hardly felt the reins, grumbling was heard; "It is nearly four o'clock; why the deuce doesn't it go off?"

At a quarter to five, out gushed a small puff of white smoke from the White Buildings, then a big puff of black smoke; there was a slight ex-

plosion, a grumbling roar; stones were hurled into the air, and pitched high above the eastern wall into the docks, and then, after a silence which seemed to last nearly a minute, came a series of pops and puffs as the mines went off in rapid succession, and an immense volume of smoke arose, not in dense sluggish masses slowly surging up, as at the explosion of Fort Nicholas, but in a thinner cloud, which rose so high that the summit of the murky column was visible over Picket-House Hill to persons some way down the Woronzow Road, where it passes through the Light Division camp. When the smoke cleared off, the damage did not appear so great as was expected. The walls of the building still stood, except the north-east corner. Doubtless the inside had suffered, and, indeed, there were appearances indicating that much damage had been done. Later, at about a quarter to six, when it was supposed that all was over, and everybody had abandoned the points of observation, another series of explosions was heard.

AN OFFICER KILLED BY THE EXPLOSION.

The explosion of the White Works was attended by a serious accident. Brevet-Major Rankin, of the Royal Engineers, who went to inspect some part of the building where the powder had not exploded, whilst in the act of ascertaining the cause, was crushed to atoms by its suddenly igniting. This officer is well known as having been connected with the operations of the siege, and is much regretted. Every effort was made to clear away the masonry, but it was only in the course of the night that the body was arrived at. Life was quite extinct; and from the nature of the fearful injuries received, it was evident that death must have been instantaneous. The remains were carried up to camp the next morning. Major Rankin, who was an officer of ample private means, which he devoted to the best purposes, was much respected, not only in his own corps, but by a wide circle of friends. His name will be remembered as that of the engineer officer who conducted the assaulting party on the ever-memorable 8th of September, in the attack upon the Redan. He was then a subaltern, but getting his company on the 25th of the same month, he was worthily promoted to a brevet majority for his conduct on that occasion. His death has cast a gloom over his corps, of which he was an honoured member, and has created the greater sensation from its occurrence just at the time when all the ordinary dangers of active service had apparently ceased. It is said that Colonel Gordon and a sapper, who were in a part of the White Buildings at the time this last explosion occurred, also had a narrow escape.

Of the armistice, we give an account in another column. Many English officers, on receipt of the news of the armistice, have asked for a furlough; several of them propose to visit Jerusalem.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

COUNT ORLOFF is said to have been the person who first spoke formally at the Conference of inviting Prussia, and the ground he took was, that as a modification was to be made in the treaty of 1841—that, in the public law of Europe—it was necessary that all the Powers who had taken part in that act should be represented when a change was to be made in it. Accordingly, Prussia has been invited to send Plenipotentiaries; and the King has designated, for that purpose, the Baron de Manteuffel (the Prussian Minister of Foreign Affairs) and Count de Hatzfeldt (the Prussian Minister at Paris).

It is conjectured from this that Prussia is merely invited, much in the same manner as an indifferent person is called in to witness a deed, and which only wants that formality; and it is supposed the approaching sitting of the Congress is probably the last, or nearly the last, that will be held.

It may then be inferred, from the invitation addressed to Prussia, that no danger now exists of her incurring any obligations—that the consequences need no longer be apprehended—that the causes for the continuance of war are removed—and that, in a word, Russia has accepted all that has been asked.

A Paris letter, in the "Independence" of Brussels, says:—

"Baron de Brunow, exhausted with fatigue, fainted on Wednesday (12th inst.) in the cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, just as the plenipotentiaries were about to enter on their deliberations. This incident, which caused great emotion among the members of the congress, had no painful results—M. de Brunow having promptly recovered and been able to join his colleagues."

The Russian organ, "Le Nord" says—

"We persist in believing that the negotiations are nearly at an end; France and Russia sincerely desire peace; Turkey and Piedmont are not opposed to it; the subtleties of Austria and the obstinacy of England may somewhat retard, but will not prevent it."

"Le Nord" believes that the question of the Asiatic frontier is resolved as far as concerns the restitution of the districts occupied by the Russians. The latter will restore Kars, the Turks will evacuate Mingrelia, and so the *status quo ante* will be restored. "Only the presence of M. Manteuffel is waited for, in order to the signature of the first protocol of peace."

It is stated that the Court of Athens, having waited in vain for an invitation to be represented at the Congress in Paris, has determined on sending its Ambassador at London, M. Tricoupi, to present a memorandum to that diplomatic assembly; and two writers for a newspaper published in Athens, in support of Russian interest, are supposed to have been despatched to Paris to meet M. Tricoupi with the aforesaid document, which has been composed by the Athenian Camarilla, to be presented to the Congress. In all probability Lord Clarendon will be able to leave Paris in about ten days from the present time.

DESTRUCTION OF COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

OFFICIAL INQUIRY.

On Tuesday, the 11th inst., the Coroner for Westminster, and a jury assembled at the Piazza Hotel, Covent Garden, to inquire into the circumstances attending the total destruction of Covent Garden Theatre by fire.

James Castles, fireman to Covent Garden Theatre, said—He was employed by Mr. Robertson, as agent to the proprietors. His duty was to attend to the general safety of the theatre. There were four firemen engaged in the duty, each having an equal share of duty over the whole of the premises. He was in the theatre a few minutes after one on Monday until after the fire took place. The time that he supposed the fire occurred was between four and five o'clock on Wednesday morning, as near as he could tell. He never left the theatre during the whole time. Between four and five on the morning of the fire he was passing up to the flies where the machinery was, and returned to the stage, where it was desirable that the firemen should be, in consequence of the number of smokers, and then entered into a conversation with Mr. Bryanstone, and Mr. Palmer, the foremen of the gas department, and asked him what "battens" or border lights he would have left alight, imagining that the people would go to work to remove the fitting. He had just spoken one word when he clasped his hands, and said, "Oh, my God, the theatre is on fire." At that time he saw a glimmering light through the floor of the carpenters' shop. At this time no fire had fallen. He then met Butler, another fireman, and told him the house was on fire, and they both rushed up to the carpenters' shop. When they got to the door a gust of black smoke struck them which issued from the shop. The smoke rushed out of the door, which was open; it was so dense that Butler called to him to go on his hands and knees to endeavour to get at the fire-cock in the shop, and he supposed that they got about midway, but he then got so giddy he was obliged to return, but not before seeing that the fire was on the left side of the shop. As soon as he got to the door he fell, but got up and ran to the fire-cock at the end of the floor which was on fire. The fire mains were charged for that place, but he was unable to find it. He remained there until he heard some one call him. He went to the flies, and cut two or three ropes from the windlasses, thinking they would stop the fire. He then saw Mr. Lawrence and other firemen on the stage at work at the fire-cocks. The engines were playing when he left the building. There was a rule for the firemen to the effect, that one of the men was to go round the building every hour. Three men were on duty at night, and one during the day. It was the duty of each to make the rounds as ordered. He had passed from the front of the theatre to the stage frequently that day, and he had not smelt anything like fire or gas in the carpenter's shop. He had frequently smelt gas, but not more than might be expected from wear and tear. The fire broke out by the side of the carpenters' workshop. He did not

think it could be burning elsewhere. It was merely his impression that the fire had been wilfully made. There were some gas-fittings in the carpenters' shop, but they had not been used since Christmas. The gas was turned off from the pipes in question in the carpenters' shop. Any person could turn the cock with a key. If the gas escaped from these pipes it would have gone up the shaft of the chandelier, which was suspended from the roof through the carpenters' shop. The chandelier could not be taken into the shop, as it was a fixture. The shaft was an open one, and like a large funnel. The draught, for the escape of gas, was very great. The chandelier was suspended by iron girders, which rested horizontally on the timber supports, which were made fast to the floor of the shop, which was the roof of the theatre. The supports could be seen by any person in the carpenters' shop. The distance from the chandelier to the floor of the carpenters' shop was between 14 and 15 feet, and about 10 or 11 from the gas when alight.

William Butler, another fireman of the theatre, stated that he went on duty, on the night previous to the fire, at nine o'clock, and remained so till the fire was discovered. At three o'clock on the morning of the fire, he met Mr. Sloman's brother on the first fly, and from him he learned the hour of the morning. After Mr. Sloman left him, he (the witness) proceeded up stairs, and found everything in the top flies was perfectly safe, and nothing like fire was perceptible. On returning down stairs he entered the flies at the prompt side, and crossed to the O. P. side, and then he returned to the ball-room to prevent the gentlemen from smoking, and remained there until the alarm. Castles came to him and said there was something "wrong upstairs," and they immediately ran upstairs to the carpenters' shop. He did not think the fire was occasioned by gas, as, if such had been the case, the flooring would have been on fire underneath, instead of the top, as was the case when the fire was first discovered. There was a considerable quantity of loose stuff lying about the carpenters' shop. Any person could enter the shop, as it was open. The gas was first fitted in the carpenters' shop to bring out the pantomime, but it had been shut off since, and no gas had been used in the shop since Christmas. On Tuesday morning he was up in the shop with a lantern, but it was enclosed with glass, and was tenaced a safety lamp.

John Drake Palmer, gas-fitter—He was employed by the proprietors as general manager of the gas-fittings of the theatre. The last time he did anything to the fittings was to erect those that had been spoken about in the carpenters' shop. There are about 800 burners in it, but they were not all fish-tail burners, and they were all in thorough repair. The witness here explained the mode in which the chandelier was fixed. The gas for the chandelier was regulated by a dial-plate in the prompt-box. If the gas was turned full on, some of the burners would not go higher than an inch and a half. The heat from it would warm the ceiling, but it would be impossible for the ceiling to take fire from it. The chandelier was first lit at about a quarter to twelve on Monday morning, and was never turned off till the fire took place. It had been turned down, but not put out. The burners were lit with a long bamboo rod, with three feet of wire at the end. The men saturated the cotton ball at the end of the wire with spirits of wine. They place the ball in the spirit bottle which they carry with them. The ball was always brought back after it had been used at the chandelier. At a quarter to five, he was speaking to Mr. Anderson with his back to the green-room, and as he was giving orders which battens were to be left burning, he saw the fire through the cracks of the shop. Mr. Anderson exclaimed, "Hush," and he then looked up and said, "Good God! the house is on fire; get out for your lives." He (the witness) then ran to the gas regulators, and very gently turned the whole of the gas off. It was totally impossible for the lights or gas from the chandelier to have caused the fire.

Mr. Henry Sloman, the machinist and carpenter of the establishment, was last on the premises about half-past eleven on Tuesday night. He had not been in the carpenters' shop since Friday last, when he went to see if it had been properly cleared up. The centre of the floor was quite clear. There was a large quantity of wood and properties at the sides, but not heaped about the shop. It did not occur to him that anything but the escape of gas caused the fire. The escape of gas was very great, so great indeed that he had frequently called the attention of the authorities, the gasmen, and firemen, to the circumstance; and he had frequently said, that if the escape of gas was not seen to the theatre would be burned down. Since the gas had been supplied by the London Gas Company the pressure had been three times as much as it used to be. He was certain there was not sufficient wood to fill half a cart lying about the carpenters' shop. He thought the gas must have exploded, and therefore caused the fire. There had not been a light in the carpenters' shop since Christmas.

The inquiry was then adjourned, and on Saturday last it was resumed, when

William Harrison, machinist, deposed that he was employed by Mr. Anderson as general manager of his machinery and properties; was in the carpenters' workshop of the theatre at three o'clock on the day before the fire, but not afterwards. Lanning, a carpenter, was working there at the time; there were a few shavings and some wood lying about, but not near the chandelier fire; smelt no gas; there was no fire in the shop, which was usually too warm. Witness left the theatre at about half-past three on Wednesday morning, before the fire broke out; had previously smelt no fire; could not conceive how the fire originated. He had never heard of any disagreement between Mr. Anderson and any of the people employed at the theatre, nor of any threats made by any one.

G. J. Lanning, the carpenter, said he was at work in the shop on the day preceding the fire up to five o'clock; no one else was at work there that day, but several workmen were up and down; was planning a little during the day, but used no glue, nor spirit of wine, nor fire; the chandelier was at least twenty-five feet from the place where he was working; there was nothing to lead him to suppose that the fire originated in the carpenters' shop. He left at five o'clock in the afternoon.

B. Dallaston said he was employed on the stage on the Monday and Tuesday before the fire. Went up to the carpenters' shop on Tuesday night, at half-past ten, for his tools and his clothes. Was lit up by his son with a candle to the bottom of the step-ladder, and from thence went in the dark, as he knew the place well. Noticed nothing particular about the place, but it was dreadfully hot. Did not notice any particular smell of gas. Persons from the boxes could go up to the shop, the key of which was lost. The bottom lights, between the borders of the scenery, above and across the stage, had been turned on very strong in the evening, by Mr. Anderson's orders; the flame of these lights was not above two inches in height, and the lights themselves were twenty or twenty-five feet below the floor of the carpenters' shop; could not say whether the adjoining woodwork might be ignited by these lights; the floor of the carpenters' shop was full of holes, through which ropes passed to suspend the battens, and it was possible the fire might have been communicated to the shop by those ropes.

James Cooper gave evidence as to the lighting of the lower part of the chandelier by himself on Tuesday night, the top part having been already a-light; the fire, he said, could not have originated in that operation, nor had he any idea of how it did occur.

Mr. John Henry Anderson, describing himself as the Wizard of the North, and artist in natural magic, residing at 16, Cecil Street, Strand, was then examined. He said he had rented Covent Garden Theatre from Mr. Gye for ten weeks, commencing on the 26th of Dec. last. The duties of the theatre were conducted by departments, and he had the appointment of the heads of all these, with the exception of the firemen, whom he believed to have been appointed by the proprietors. The persons he engaged were those who had previously been employed by Mr. Gye; he made no change, but besides these he had several persons employed by himself, and not otherwise connected with the theatre. He had not the slightest idea how the fire broke out. There had been no dispute between himself and the workmen, nor any dissatisfaction expressed, nor any threat uttered. A trifling dispute which had occurred between the gasman and the head carpenter he had himself satisfactorily settled. He had sustained a loss by the fire, but as yet could not say how great. He was insured in the Sun to the amount of £2,000; was not now liable to rent for the theatre, as his term expired on the night of the *bal masqué*. Gas had been escaping in the theatre, but not in any particular place; but he was convinced

of the impossibility of this calamity having occurred from gas. He had been connected with theatres all his life, and had had his own theatre burned, and never discovered the cause of it; was not aware of anything to throw light on the origin of this disaster, as all his servants were regular and attentive in a high degree. He had no insurance save that in the Sun. The fire took place about a week before that insurance expired, the insurance being regulated by his term of the theatre. On entering on the theatre, he had changed the gas company, his object being to get a better supply. The metres were in the street, outside the theatre altogether. A certain portion of his property had been saved, simply from the accident of its position. He was on the stage, and the gasman was in the act of turning the valve to lower the gas, as a signal to terminate the *bal*, when the fire was first discovered by the gasman, who suddenly exclaimed, pointing upwards, "Good God! the place is on fire!" Witness, on looking up, saw the whole place in one sheet of flame. He then alarmed the audience. The glare of gaslight on the stage might easily prevent the glare of the flames above from being seen. There had been no combustible matter in the theatre to his knowledge, but there was a good deal of smoking going on among the audience during the night; he had himself been in six fights in his efforts to suppress it. (Laughter.) He did not think that any of the audience could have gone up to the flies or to the carpenters' shop during the night. He had ordered the battens to be lighted well up before the public were admitted, in order to judge of the effect, and so they remained during the night. The borders of the scenery he had directed to be kept well away from them. It was contrary to orders to carry lighted candles in any part of the theatre.

Mr. Richard Jones, engineer to the London Gas Company (which supplied the theatre), said he had heard the evidence, and he was almost convinced that gas had nothing to do with the cause of the fire. Gas could not ignite without white heat, and it was impossible for any considerable accumulation of escaped gas to ignite without a violent concussion and noise. If such a thing had occurred in this case, it would have rent the roof.

The inquiry was at this point again adjourned.

MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS OF COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

A MEETING of the shareholders or annuitants of the Covent Garden Theatre took place on Saturday last, at the request of some of the proprietors, in Robins' Rooms, Covent Garden. Between forty and fifty gentlemen were present, and Dr. Smethurst was called to the chair.

Mr. Surnam proceeded to make a statement respecting the position of the theatre, from which it appeared that it was held under lease from the Duke of Bedford, at a rent of £2,085 per annum, and that 38 years of the term are unexpired. In 1808 the theatre was burnt, and in 1809 was rebuilt. On that occasion 150 shares, of £500 each, were issued; whereby a sum of £75,000 was realised. The present shareholders, renters, or annuitants, represent the original shareholders who were entitled to £25 a year each for the whole term of the lease, and also to free admissions transferable once a year. In the year 1832 the theatre was in difficulties; the shareholders had not received their annuities for seven years; the proprietors had incurred a debt of £70,000 or £80,000. There was an execution in the house, and the property appeared to be ruined. Various meetings consequently took place of those who had a large interest in the property, and, in the month of March, 1832, the shareholders came to a resolution to give up the last three years' arrears of their annuities, and to take ten shillings in the pound in discharge of the arrears previously due. They also agreed to take £12 10s. a year instead of £25 yearly, and that this last-mentioned arrangement should continue in operation until the theatre was free from debt. That agreement had been carried successfully into effect, and from the year 1832 to the present time, with the exception of one year, the annuities were paid almost as regularly as Bank dividends. He believed also the whole of the persons by whom the ten shillings in the pound were to be received on account of arrears had been paid. The reduction of the annuities to £12 10s. yearly, reduced the charge on the theatre on that account from £3,750 yearly to £1,875, and that was the second charge on the theatre in the year 1832 (when the theatre began the world again), the first charge being the Duke of Bedford's rent, which his Grace consented to reduce from £2,085 to £1,585 per annum. The other charges on the theatre were for taxes, salaries of firemen, salary of Mr. Robinson, and miscellaneous expenses, and the whole of the charges added together amounted to £5,000 yearly. At one period, they could get no tenant for the theatre except the Anti-Corn Law League; and when it was first let for an Opera house the rent was £6,000 a year; the rent paid by Mr. Gye being £6,500, therefore, the profits arising out of a property that cost in 1809 £300,000 was, on an average, from 1832 to 1856, only £600 a year. The property was held by the proprietors in twelfth parts. The executors of the late Charles Kemble held two twelfths, which were left to the son and two daughters of Mr. Kemble, but the affairs were in chancery; and he understood that the two twelfths or one-sixth left by Mr. Charles Kemble were valued at £500. Captain Forbes and Mr. Willet represented three twelfths of the property; and the remaining seven twelfths belonged to the Harris family, and were represented by him (Mr. Surnam) as the executor of the late Mr. Harris and trustee for the family. Mr. Harris died in 1839, owing private debts exceeding £50,000, secured by mortgage on this theatre, not a shilling of which was paid or likely to be paid. In 1832 or 1833, the general debt of £70,000, had been reduced to something like £24,000. They had been since endeavouring to pay that sum, and it was now reduced to £9,000. The proprietors, on looking to the state of the property and the small profits that had been realised, felt it was out of their power to do anything with it. It was for the shareholders to consider whether it would be for their advantage to apply to the Duke of Bedford for a renewal of the lease, because they could not think of re-building the house on a lease that had only thirty-eight years to run. The sum calculated as profit last year was £1,500; but Mr. Gye was in their debt £1,700, and that was £200 beyond the profit. Mr. Gye was insured for £8,000.

After some conversation, The Chairman observed that the site might be used for the purpose of enlarging the Covent Garden market, and inquired if the Duke of Bedford had made any offer for the land.

Mr. Surnam replied in the negative; and further stated that he had informed the Duke of Bedford's agent that the proprietors were not in a position to re-build the theatre. It was his intention to inform the Duke, to whom they owed a year's rent, that they could not pay the rent, or fulfil the covenants in the lease, and that they hoped the Duke would take possession of his property. He added, subsequently, that, having heard that the Duke was going to throw the ground into the market, he made inquiry on the subject, and was informed that his Grace would not expend any money upon it.

It was then resolved, on the motion of Mr. Sharpe, that a committee should be appointed to investigate the affairs of the theatre, and to report upon the same to the general body of the shareholders. The meeting then separated.

The 125 annuitant shares are held by 110 persons, including the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Devonshire, the Earl of Dartmouth, the executors of the Duchess of St. Albans, and the Marquis of Salisbury.

The agreement with Mr. Gye was for a period of ten years, from the 1st of October, 1853, at a rent of £6,500 for the first three years, and £7,000 for the remainder of the term. The theatre was not insured, because the payment of the large sum that would be required for premiums was deemed impossible.

ENGLISH RIFLE SHOOTING IN THE CRIMEA.

THE whole army has recently been going through a regular course of target practice. Detachments from every regiment have been engaged in this exercise. Colonel Kennedy, formerly of the school at Hythe, and now on the Adjutant-General's Department of this army, superintends the whole. Rifle shooting matches are of frequent occurrence, and one of these, which excited considerable interest in the army, came off one afternoon lately at the practice ground in the Karabelna ravine. Lieutenant-Colonel Blane, military secretary, and Captain Ponsoby, aide-de-camp to General Codrington, had challenged the whole army. The firing was to be at two hundred yards' distance; the Minié rifle was to be the weapon used, and the palm of victory was to be decided in the usual manner by the target. Colonel Kennedy selected the men who were to compete with the officers already named. One man was chosen to represent each division of the army. Four divisions were, however, only represented in the contest, the Guards, Second, Fourth, and Light; it being found on trial that the men from these were so superior to all others as to preclude all chance of successful competition. Four rounds were fired, each man firing one shot in succession. The result gave the victory to the soldiers—a sergeant of the 20th Regiment being first on the list. Next to him a corporal of the 77th Regiment gained the greatest number of points. The Guards' candidate followed, and then Colonel Blane. Captain Ponsoby, who is reputed a good shot, was singularly unfortunate on this occasion. General Codrington, a very numerous assemblage of staff and regimental officers, and a large body of soldiers, were present. The engraving on the next page represents one of these matches.

RELIEVING NIGHT GUARD AT FORT PAUL.

THE accompanying very life-like sketch of Crimean life represents the relieving guard at Fort Paul, or rather the heap of stones which was once Fort Paul. This station has derived considerable interest from a recent occurrence. One night, recently, when the Russians opened the heaviest fire which had ever been directed from the north side against the town and suburbs of Sebastopol, the sentry near Fort Paul gave the alarm that he saw a number of boats crossing the harbour. He fancied he saw fifteen or sixteen boats, and subsequently others of the guard supported his assertion. A musketry fire was poured in the direction along which the boats were supposed to be advancing. The night was misty, and the stars were hidden by clouds, so that the Fort Paul guard, it was thought, might have been readily deceived in supposing they saw boats in the harbour. Even the sudden, rapidly repeated flashes of light might have encouraged the mistaken idea, as it was one, by throwing into prolonged shadows the parts of the topmasts of the sunken ships which rise to a short distance out of the water. Subsequent observation by others could not detect the boats; and, at length, the mystery was cleared up by the "Invalide Russe":—"A Russian naval Ensign, cruising with a boat in the Sebastopol Bay, encountered, opposite the Paul Battery, some hostile cutters, who attempted to cut off his retreat. To the grape shot fired from the boat, the enemy replied by a fusillade, and by a discharge of grape shot from a piece of light calibre on one of the cutters. At a signal given by the Ensign, the batteries on the north side opened a cannonade, but the enemy had disappeared." And so this apparently mysterious affair becomes plain enough, and shows how easily, under such circumstances, a very simple matter may be magnified into importance.

THE ARMISTICE IN THE CRIMEA.

On the 28th ult., a flag of truce was hoisted on the north side of Sebastopol roadstead, and a boat pulled towards the south harbour. At the same

time a French boat put off from the south side, and the two met about mid distance between the shores. The communication occupied longer than usual, and there appeared to be something more than the usual interchange of courtesy. Some of the spectators said they observed the French and Russian officers shaking hands. It soon became known in camp that the interview had been connected with the arrangement of an armistice; and the particular object of the visit of the Russian officers in charge of the boat was stated to be the ascertaining if the Allies, like themselves,

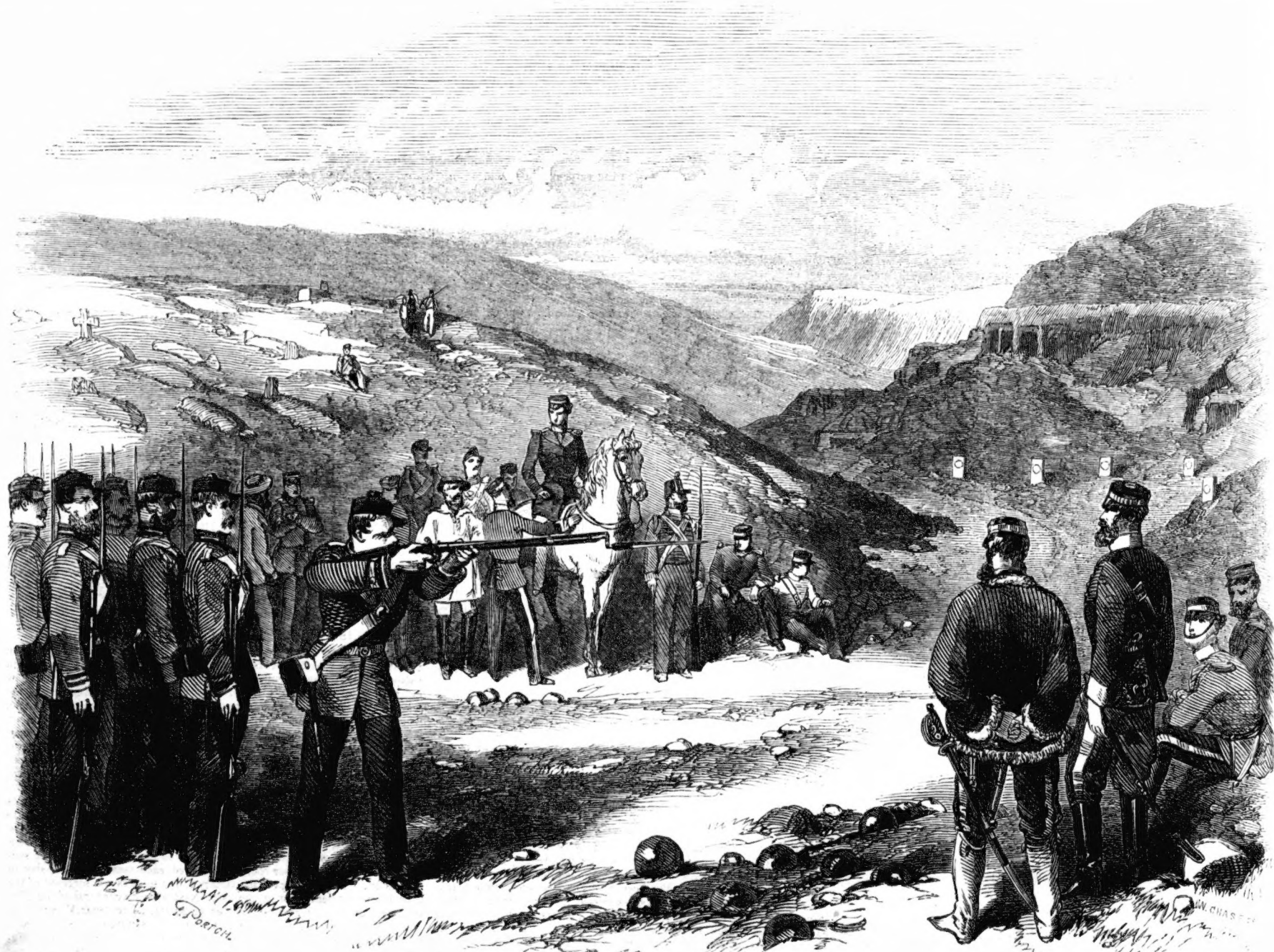
The Russian General and his staff were escorted by a detachment of Cossacks, from fifty to sixty in number. The horses are described by those who were near as in very bad condition, and the men looking thin and worn—altogether very different from what they were prior to the commencement of winter. Their appearance contrasted remarkably with that of General Windham and the other Generals, as did the Cossack Cavalry with the dazzling appearance of the 11th Hussars, who formed the English escort. Both men and horses were above all comparison; indeed, neither

had received instructions on the subject.

Early next morning it became known that a meeting of Generals of the Allied armies with the Russian authorities was to take place at Traktir Bridge, on the Tchernaya, and a large number of officers and others instantly flocked to the spot to see all that was to be seen. A short time before the appointed hour, a group of horsemen were seen to leave the opening at the east end of the Tchernaya Valley, where the Bakshi-Seria road passes to ascend the Mackenzie Heights. A bright sun was shining, the atmosphere was magnificently clear, and objects were conspicuous and well defined at long distances. The cavalry had not advanced far into the plain, when bang went a shot from one of the lower French batteries. This was quickly succeeded by another; and the guns were evidently turned towards the approaching horsemen, who, not liking the reception, it is presumed, came to a halt. Every one saw a mistake had occurred. The officer in charge of the battery could not have been informed of the intended meeting, and, seeing the Russians, had treated them as an advancing enemy. The error was at once corrected, either by signal or by some more direct means; for, after the second shot all remained quiet in the batteries, and the Russians continued their approach. At the same time, the Chief of the French Staff, General Martimprey, who has lately returned to the Crimea, and General Windham, Chief of the Staff of the English army, with a select body of Staff officers, and their respective escorts, left the French lines at the *tete du pont*, and galloped along the high road, where it crosses the plain, to meet the Russian General.



RELIEVING NIGHT GUARD—FORT PAUL.—FROM A SKETCH BY LIEUT. HARVEY, 7TH REGIMENT.



ENGLISH RIFLE PRACTICE IN THE MIDDLE RAVINE, SEBASTOPOL.

do French nor Sardinian Cavalry come near our own. General Windham, and the chiefs of the staff of the French and Sardinian armies, met the Russian General about half a mile beyond the bridge, and, in a tent, conferred together for a very considerable time, during which much kindly feeling was exhibited between the Russians and the Allies. They conversed freely, exchanged cigars, and such like civilities. General Codrington was near the place of the interview, but seemingly only a spectator. He wore his ordinary uniform and cap, while the staff-officers on duty were distinguished by their cocked-hats and dress appropriate for the occasion. Many officers left the English camp to see the meeting, which naturally excited considerable interest, but they were properly not permitted to go beyond the stone bridge.

Altogether, there were a good number of Russian officers at and near Traktir Bridge. Some of them were strolling by twos and threes in the fields at a short distance beyond, and when these were descried there was usually a regular charge down upon them by the allied officers, eager to make their acquaintance. Their manner was generally grave and rather reserved, but they conversed readily, and all had the tone and appearance of well-bred men. Some of them were very young. All—cavalry as well as infantry, and the General and his Staff—wore the long uniform great-coat of a sort of brown and gray mixture, and seemed to have no other insignia of rank than the different colours and lace of the shoulder-strap. There was also a difference of fineness in the cloth of their coats from that of the soldiers, but this at a very short distance was not apparent. The Staff wore white kid gloves, and a number of them wore smart patent leather boots—elegancies rarely seen in our part of the Crimea.

But the great object of curiosity was the fur-capped Cossacks, around whom the Allied officers assembled, examining their arms and equipments, and entering into conversation, which, in most cases, was carried on by signs. They were slender, wiry men—ugly enough, most of them—mounted on small, rough, active horses, and carrying, besides sword and carbine, flagless lances, whose long black poles terminated in a small but very sharp pointed steel head. They seemed well pleased to cultivate the acquaintance of their enemies, and also had evidently an eye to the main chance. A Cossack corporal proposed a barter to a Sardinian officer. The latter had a tolerably good riding-whip, for which the astute child of the Don insisted on swapping a shabby sort of instrument of torture, of which his pony is doubtless rejoiced to be rid. The Sardinian hesitated, the Cossack persisted, and the exchange was effected, the officer looking rather ruefully after his departed *crack*, and somewhat contemptuously at the shabby but characteristic stick and thong he had received for it. The signal thus given, the whip trade soon acquired great activity, and the Cossack corporal availed himself of an opportunity to exchange his Sardinian whip for a much better French one, the receiver of the former doubtless imagining he had secured a genuine Russian article.

PRINCE JEROME BONAPARTE.

At the moment that a new member of the Imperial family of France is ushered into the world, the utmost fears are being entertained that the eldest representative of the Napoleon dynasty—Prince Jerome, the former King of Westphalia, the youngest brother of the great Napoleon, and uncle of the present French Emperor—is on the eve of his departure from it. Strange it is that the failing health of the old man should coincide in time with the fulfilment of his nephew's natural hopes. He has at any rate been spared to welcome an heir to the Imperial throne, whose career, it is hoped, is destined to be more fortunate than that of him whose birth he celebrated more than forty years ago. Prince Jerome Bonaparte was neither born great, nor achieved greatness; the third alternative expresses most happily the nature of his fortunes. His name appears in history as early as the opening of the present century, when he was but

yet a boy. His famous brother had overthrown the Republican Constitution, seized absolute power under the name of Consul, and within four years established an Imperial throne. It was an amiable feature of Napoleon's character that he sought to advance the fortunes of his relatives, for we can hardly conceive that his own interests were furthered by such a course. Indeed, it may be thought that the founder of the Bonaparte dynasty, like his successor, Louis Philippe, endangered his throne by a policy

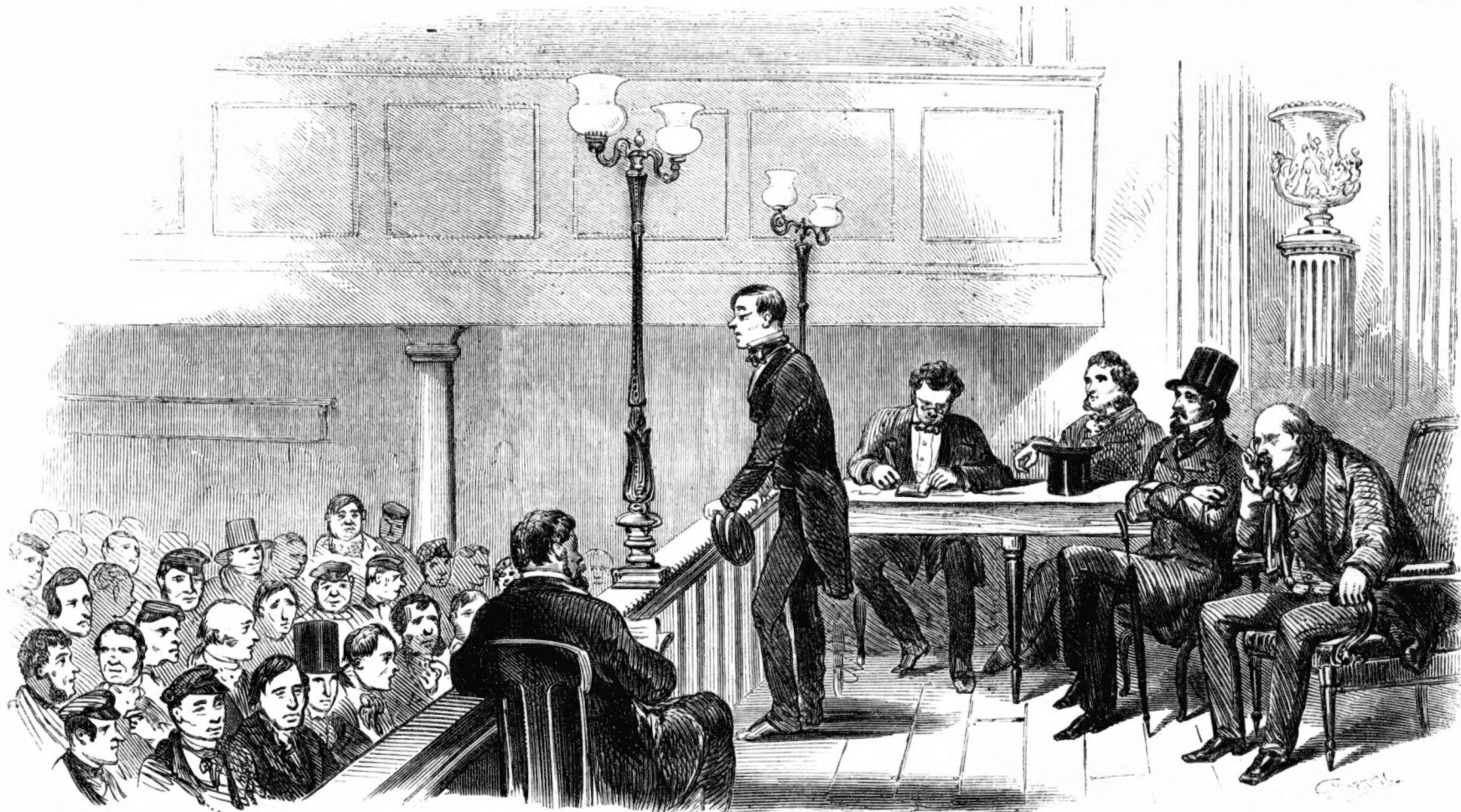
which, though it may have been dictated somewhat by pride, nevertheless had in it much of family affection. Napoleon had no sooner attained the chief power in France, by the first Revolution, than young Jerome was placed in the navy. This service was then disorganised, neglected, and unpopular. The courage and enterprise of the band of heroes who commanded the squadrons of England had almost driven the flag of France from the sea. It had been otherwise in former days. Although England had been the first naval Power, France had been an obstinate and sometimes victorious rival. Old French sailors might remember the days of Suffren and Paul Jones, and contrast with the disgraces which had befallen the republican tricolour the time when, under the white flag, a French fleet terrified the southern counties of England. Napoleon was no mere general; he had no narrow professional instincts; and from the day that he began to rule France he became a statesman in the highest sense. To humble England he must make his country a naval Power; he must unite to his own fleets those of the second-rate naval States, and organise a force which would enable him to carry on an offensive war against the only nation whose enmity was to be feared. We may imagine that some vision of the coming empire prompted him to connect the name of his own family with the naval renown of France. The years of the Consulate were years of great naval preparation, and Jerome Bonaparte passed this period in somewhat active service. Shortly after his brother had been elected Emperor, Jerome, then only 19, committed what was, in Imperial eyes, his greatest indiscretion. Without leave, he made a hasty marriage with a young American lady, and by this union the cosmopolite family of Bonaparte counts among its members many citizens of the great republic. On his return home, he was chased by Sir Sydney Smith and Sir Richard Strachan, but escaped by running his ship under a battery. France was then so accustomed to ill-success at sea that a captain who evaded capture was considered to have no mean merit, and Jerome thought himself entitled to approbation. But Napoleon was angry, for many reasons: his brother had made what the world calls a misalliance, and professionally he had done nothing to illustrate the family name. Jerome remained some time in disgrace, although he was again employed, and received the command of a squadron and the rank of rear-admiral. But the navy, now utterly discredited, was no profession for a Bonaparte, and Jerome, in 1807, entered the ranks of the great army with the grade of general.

Then came the epoch of the new dynasties. Joseph went to Naples and then to Spain; Louis to Holland; young Jerome, married to a Princess of Wurtemberg, received the new crown of Westphalia; Murat ruled at Naples; Bernadotte was heir to the crown of Sweden. All the continental world was represented at Paris by rich embassies; England was alone, apparently under the ban of mankind. It was natural to be elated by such miraculous and sudden greatness, and, though "Madame Mere" is reported to have said, "I may one day be called on to find bread for all these kings," her children had no misgiving. Jerome was not much of a ruler, he had not been much of a sailor, and he afterwards proved to be rather an indifferent general. He commanded 70,000 Germans in the Russian campaign, and was surprised at Smolensko, disconcerted the plans of the Emperor, and was sent back in disgrace to Germany. Europe rose against the falling conqueror; Jerome fled from his kingdom, which had now ceased to exist. After a separation from his consort, his wanderings led him to Trieste, where he received the news that

Napoleon had escaped from Elba, and was once more in France an emperor, and able, perhaps, to make him once more a king. The Austrian Government watched Jerome, who, however, found means to escape. Murat sent a frigate to take him off secretly, and he was soon in Paris, one of the heroes of the Hundred Days. Waterloo was his last field, and for many hours of the 18th of June the corps under his command attacked in vain the Chateau of Hougomont. When Napoleon fell for



PRINCE JEROME BONAPARTE.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYER PROTEURS.)



A MEETING OF TICKET-OF-LEAVE MEN, CONVENED BY MR. HENRY MAYHEW.

the last time, his brother's career seemed to have closed. A German title and a German estate were conferred on him, and it seemed likely that after having been admiral, general, king, fugitive, and proscriber—after having seen campaigns by land and sea, and borne a part in the greatest drama the world has witnessed, he would sink into obscurity at thirty years of age.

But he was once more to be lifted to eminence. A third of a century passed away, and two dynasties had fallen in France. Another generation had arisen, new ideas and new sciences had changed the face of Europe. All the old soldiers and statesmen were gone; even the traditions of their age seemed departing, when Jerome Bonaparte, who had been heard of as early as any of them, re-appeared on the stage, still not a very old man. An Augustus had arisen to continue the empire of the modern Julius, and Jerome was soon once more a Prince of an Imperial family. We certainly need not search ancient history for instances of the mutability of fortune in pulling down and setting up men. The present age has had enough examples to supply moralists for all time, and the houses of Bourbon and Bonaparte may furnish names to adorn all the tales that are likely to be written. Napoleon III. was anxious to connect his own rule as much as possible with the memories of the old empire, and Jerome, with his resemblance to his brother, his eventful life as one of that strange band of kings, and his share in what is to Frenchmen almost the whole history of France, was a personage who could not be too highly placed. It was well that a Bonaparte should be seen at the Tuileries who had been seen there when men were reading in the "Moniteur" about Austerlitz or Friedland.

MEETING OF TICKET-OF-LEAVE MEN.

IN our last number we gave an engraving of a group of Ticket-of-Leave Men, and accompanied our illustration with a short account of the character of the imprisonment and probationary discipline undergone by this particular class of convicts ere they were let loose on society, as the phrase is, with their tickets of leave. Mr. Henry Mayhew—whose writings prove the deep interest he takes in what we commonly style the "lower orders" among our city population, which interest he, moreover, extends to actual criminals who have undergone their term of punishment and are desirous of returning to a honest course of life—a few evenings since convened a meeting of Ticket-of-Leave Men at the National Hall, Holborn, with the view of affording to persons of this class an opportunity of stating the difficulties they have to encounter in their endeavours to obtain an honest livelihood. About fifty members of the body responded to Mr. Mayhew's invitation. The men were admitted on presenting their tickets-of-leave, and were required on entrance to fill up the columns of a register, setting forth their ages, their occupations, the offences for which they were last convicted, their sentences, and the amount of instruction they had severally received. From the information thus collected, it appears that only three out of the fifty present were above the age of 40, the large majority ranging between 18 and 35, the highest age of all being 68; that they consisted of labourers, hawkers, costermongers, blacksmiths, shoemakers, carpenters, and other handicraftsmen, that their previous punishments varied from two years to fourteen years' transportation; and that more than one-half of them had been educated either at day-schools or Sunday-schools. Suspecting that the men would be unwilling to attend if the police presented themselves either in the hall or at its entrance, Mr. Mayhew took the precaution to apply beforehand to the Metropolitan Commissioners on the subject. The authorities at once acceded to the request thus made to them, and not a solitary constable was permitted to overawe the meeting.

Mr. Mayhew opened the proceedings by explaining at some length the object for which he had called them together. He was anxious, he said, that the public should be made better acquainted than it was with the condition and the aspirations of ticket-of-leave men. He had himself trusted and tried many of them in various ways, and had never been wronged one farthing by them, and he wished society to feel as strongly persuaded as he was that there was a latent spark of good left in every one of them, however degraded, which only required developing to raise them to the position which all must desire to see them fill. Having described the nature of the ticket-of-leave system, and eulogised its introduction, Mr. Mayhew proceeded to contend that it had worked most successfully, inasmuch as statistical returns proved that only 5½ per cent. of the total number of tickets-of-leave granted between September, 1853, and December 31st, 1855, (namely 4,612) had been followed by relapses on the part of their recipients into their former courses; whereas the average proportion of re-committals within the United Kingdom was thirty-three per cent. of the entire number of prisoners tried. Various obstacles, however, interposed to check the benefits that must otherwise have flowed from the change. Among these were the roving and unsettled habits of the men, which indisposed them for steady monotonous employment. To do anything effectual for their permanent amelioration, society must as far as possible work in consonance with their nature, and not in opposition to it. In this respect street trading afforded a good outlet for their industry, requiring as it did no certificate of character from those who embarked in it, and all that they wanted was a little stock-money to start with. The formation of a society which should advise and help them in the work of self-elevation was most desirable, and the establishment of street markets conducted under proper regulations, together with lodging-houses and other adjuncts, would also be of essential service towards the same end. After some other remarks, Mr. Mayhew invited several of the men to ascend the platform, and express their opinions as to the best mode in which their class might be assisted.

The first to answer this summons was a young man of neat and comparatively respectable appearance, who seemed to be known to the rest by the name of "Peter." With great fluency and remarkable propriety of expression, he proceeded to narrate his own past career. Having, he said, been transported for seven years, he was sent to Millbank Prison, where he was put to the tailoring business. Being fond of books, he was enabled while there to improve his previous education, and even began to "tackle" algebra. After the lapse of 14 months he went to Portsmouth, where he was employed in wheeling barrows from morning to night. During the whole of his confinement, his perpetual source of anxiety was what was to become of him when he should be liberated. He applied for counsel and encouragement to the chaplain, but that gentleman refused to do anything for him unless he became a communicant, a thing which he was obliged conscientiously to decline. He succeeded better with the second clergyman of the prison, who was a man of more liberal ideas than his predecessor; and he frequently expressed to him his fears that no other resource was open to him, on regaining his liberty, but to return to London, where he had been first transported, and that, being a marked man, and well known to the police, and having no character to offer as a security to any employer, he would never find work, but must go back to thieving to save himself from starvation. (Applause.) When released he had £6 12s. in his pocket, and when he got to Southampton the officer of the penal establishment, in whose company he was, kindly offered him a drop of brandy. He took a little, which, as he had not tasted spirits for four years before, immediately got into his head, so that with the help of a glass or two more afterwards, he became quite intoxicated, and spent all his money the same night, and not only so, but he got locked up into the bargain. (Laughter.) At least, if he did not spend it all himself, somebody else assisted him to spend it. (Renewed laughter.) Arriving in London without a farthing, and without a friend in the world, with no prospect of employment, and with no one, if he wanted a meal, to say, "Here it is for you," what was a man to do? Before he could bring himself to thieve, he walked the streets in a vain search for work for three months, until he wore out two pair of shoes, and grew emaciated from having nothing better to eat than a bit of bread and a herring. In this desperate state of things he met with his old associates, and for a period of two months he did very well as far as money went, for he made £5 or £6 a-week. This, however, was earned by practices which he sincerely disliked; but then, if the public would not allow him to make £1 by honest means, what was a man to do? This course, as might have been expected, soon led to his apprehension, and he was sentenced to

another 12 months' imprisonment, which expired only last Monday. Hearing that this meeting was to be held, he had eagerly attended it, in the hope that it would result in some permanent benefit to him and those like him, who were struggling, amid the greatest difficulties and severest persecution, to become honest members of society. (Hear, hear.) Knocked about by the police on every side, and coldly received by the public, he was at that moment in a condition in which he did not know where to get his next meal without stealing it; but if the encouragement held out to his class by the benevolent gentlemen who had come forward that evening in their behalf was only realised, from that time forward he was determined not again to put his hand to any dishonest action. (Cheers.)

The next speaker was a costermonger of about 25 years of age and rather diminutive stature, who said, that having been left an orphan when only ten years old, he took to selling oranges about the streets to get a living; but after spending a year or so in that way he fell into the society of a few Westminster boys, with whom he went a-thieving, until he got seven years' transportation at Newgate. Three years and seven months of his sentence were passed at the Isle of Wight, and eleven months more at Portsmouth. He was pressed to take the sacrament while in prison, but not liking to play the hypocrite, he refused. When released, he returned to London, and traded for two or three weeks in hareskins and rabbitskins. While passing through Tothill Street, Westminster, one day, two policemen came up to him and wanted to search his sack, which was full of skins, because they said he was a ticket-of-leave man, and suspected that he had something not come honestly by. Rather than allow them to look into his sack he went to the police-court in their custody, and insisted on seeing the magistrate. Before he could say a word to his Worship about the treatment he had received, the inspector spoke first, called him a "ticket-of-leave," and stated that he had been very violent and saucy. Instead of listening, under such circumstances, to what he had to say for himself, the magistrate also burst out, "Oh, you are an insolent fellow, and a disgrace to society—if the Secretary of State knew of your doings he would banish you;" and, as his Worship also muttered something about sending him to "quod" for contempt of court, he thought it best to "hook it." (Laughter.) Having learnt something of shoemaking while at the Isle of Wight, although not enough to enable him to get a living, he next tried to get work in that line at Northampton, but, having no tools, he failed. He then went on to Derby in a state bordering on starvation, and he obtained an interview with a magistrate in that town, whom he asked to assist him in getting back to London. This gentleman would scarcely believe his tale, and thought him a returned convict. Another person at Derby, of whom he had before this begged alms, gave him 1s. At length he reached London in a most miserable state, and by the help of his cousin he got into the market again. He then did better, and last Christmas twelve months he got married. His trade had been very low for the last six weeks, and he just managed to "crack a crust;" but please God he would never go back again to thieving. (Cheers.) He was not much of a talker, and therefore he would only add, that he hoped the kind gentlemen who had taken up their cause would continue to exert themselves until something satisfactory was done to give fair play to the ill-used ticket-of-leave men. (Applause.)

A stonemason next addressed the assemblage, bearing similar testimony to the hardships endured by his class. He was not, however, so ill off as those who preceded him, as since his liberation he had obtained employment at his trade, and was now earning a comfortable livelihood. At the same time, he had been anxious to be present to show his sympathy for the body of men to whom he belonged, many individual members of which he knew to be at this moment ground down by the heaviest distress.

An elderly man, who described himself as a dock labourer, next recited his tale of misery. He had been, he said, convicted of robbery at the Old Bailey, and sentenced to fourteen years' transportation, although entirely innocent. He had been sent to Millbank, to Woolwich, and to Gibraltar, and at the latter place was subjected to the harshest treatment. Flogging went on there from before daylight till late at night. £2 10s. out of the sum of £4 14s. 6d. allowed him on leaving Gibraltar was stopped to pay his passage home. He had worked for fifteen or sixteen months at the docks, but he was now out of work, and did not know how to get a living. No man in London had seen more trouble than he had.

The next speaker, a blacksmith, afflicted with lameness, then narrated his experience, bitterly inveighing against brutalities which, he alleged, were practised at the Dartmoor Penal Establishment, where, he added, the rankling sense of injustice rendered the reformation of the inmates impossible.

Other speakers narrated numerous painful instances of the unfair persecution they had been subjected to on the part of the police, who, according to their statements, interfered to prevent them, not only from obtaining situations, but also from retaining them when they were well known to be pursuing some perfectly honest calling.

Mr. Mayhew closed the proceedings by informing the men that he would endeavour to form a committee of philanthropic gentlemen, with the view of establishing a society and raising a fund for their encouragement. At the same time, he impressed on them the necessity of their exerting themselves in their own behalf, and showing to the world by their good behaviour that the efforts made by others to serve them would not be wholly thrown away.

We are happy to be able to state that the suggested committee is already in the course of formation, and that it numbers among its members many able and distinguished men.

HER MAJESTY AND A MANIAC.—One day last week, Mr. Jardine, solicitor to the Treasury, accompanied by Sergeant Lockyer, of the detective police, proceeded to St. Alban's, to inquire into the conduct of a Mr. C. Parker, who has recently written, describing himself as the Prophet Elijah, asserting his right to the crown, and requiring her Majesty to surrender her rights and dignities to him as the Prophet Elijah, at the same time threatening, that if she refused to do so he should command it by main force at the point of the bayonet, and she must take the consequence when he came to the throne. The second letter, which was dated the 4th of March, did not hold out any personal threat. The unfortunate gentleman having been taken to the station-house, the Mayor attended and took evidence respecting his delusions, and a full description of his strange conduct during the last twelve months in particular. Mrs. Wackett, with whom he was lodging, spoke to her knowledge of his sending the letters, but stated he was always labouring under the delusion of greatness and power. He was not vicious, but of a good disposition. A medical man then examined the patient in a room adjoining, and on his return gave as his opinion that the man was labouring under delusions, and was of an unsound state of mind, and required to be under some control. After some conversation, Mr. Parker, addressing the bench, said, God had instructed him to inform them that he was the prophet Elijah, and that he was mentioned in the second and last verses of the Old Testament and in Revelations; he also stated that God intended to confer upon him unlimited wealth and absolute power in the country. The required forms were then signed by the magistrates for his removal to Bethlehem Lunatic Asylum. He was removed the same evening to town.

ATTEMPT TO STAB THE WIDOW OF CHANTREY.—A young woman, named, Marian Daniells, one of the chambermaids at the Pier Hotel, was charged before the Magistrates at Brighton, last week, with attempting to stab Lady Chantrey, relict of the eminent sculptor. The prisoner had been some time in the establishment, and was generally very well conducted. Recently, however, it was observed that she had somewhat changed in her manner, but nothing serious was apprehended. One morning she was in one of Lady Chantrey's rooms cleaning it up, her Ladyship being also in the apartment, when another domestic hearing screams went into the room, and found the prisoner in an excited state, with a cheese-knife in her hand. After some struggling it was got from her, and then it was ascertained that she had attempted to stab her Ladyship, whose dress was cut in several places. The bench remanded her, in order that she might undergo medical examination. The attack has had a serious effect upon Lady Chantrey, who is upwards of 70 years of age.

LORD STANLEY AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.—Lord Stanley has been presented by the people of Lynn with an address, expressive of their confidence, and in his reply says:—"I am in Parliament certainly, and I suppose, also, wherever public matters are publicly discussed, the combative element is too strong—the industrial element not strong enough. If men would labour to remove recognised abuses with half the zeal they show in advocating the claims of class against class, or party against party, our people might by this time be educated, our law simplified and made available to all, our civil administration reformed in every branch, and the spread of disease and early death among the masses be greatly diminished by judicious sanitary arrangements. It is to objects like these, rather than to organic changes in the constitution under which we live, that I would respectfully direct the attention of reformers. Each may do something, and there is work enough for all."

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN AND COURT left Buckingham Palace for the Great Western Terminus, Paddington, on Monday afternoon, en route to Windsor Castle.

THE FORTUNE left by the late Marshal Prince Paskewitch is above £2,000,000, though in Russia and Poland it has been estimated at a much higher sum.

A WITTY ITALIAN, well acquainted with the character of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and the proceedings of the Embassy, named his palace at Pera, the "Temple of Discord."

FATHER MORGAZE, professor of theology at Alcalá, has recently been imprisoned for denying the right of the Pope to introduce a new dogma, that of the Immaculate Conception, without the consent of a general council.

THE GERMAN ARTIST, CORNELIUS, has just completed a picture representing the Last Judgment, to be executed in fresco at Berlin, its total height being 96 feet, and that of the principal figures 17 feet.

SIR E. LYONS will, it is rumoured, be sent as Minister to Constantinople soon after the peace is finally concluded.

THE CORVETTE FIRELY arrived at Kiel on the 12th, with despatches from the English Government, instructing Commodore Watson not to commence hostilities in the Baltic.

MR. LOCKE, M.P. for Honiton, has returned to London almost well, and will probably be able to attend to his Parliamentary duties after Easter.

THE "TICINENSE GAZETTE" announces that the ratifications of the commercial treaty between Great Britain and Switzerland were exchanged at Bern on the 6th.

THE LEIPSI "ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPER" was seized at Berlin on the 13th for an article against Russia.

GENERAL BARON SUBERVIE, who commanded the French advanced guard at Waterloo, and was War Minister under the Provisional Government, has just died at his chateau of Parenchère (Gironde) aged 81.

THE KING OF HOLLAND has appointed Lieutenant-General Palud to be Governor-General of the Dutch possessions in India.

ONE OF THE LITTLE AZTECS, lately exhibited in London and Paris, Théodore, aged 14, has just died at Berlin.

BARON LEJUNE, the French Ambassador at Teheran, has broken off diplomatic relations with Persia, and retired to Damascus.

A SPECIAL COMMISSION for the trial of the persons charged with the murder of Miss Hinds, will be issued in the early part of the month of April.

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NOVA SCOTIA has placed 150 guineas at the disposal of the Government to present a sword to General Williams.

THE CELEBRATED BOWYER BIBLE, in 45 folio volumes, and containing 6,000 engravings, was sold by auction at Bolton, last week, for £550.

THE MASTER IN CHANCERY has appointed the Bank of Ireland to act in the affairs of the Tipperary Bank, until an official manager shall be appointed.

LORD STANLEY presided on Saturday last, at the 41st anniversary dinner of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution.

COLONEL CAVENDISH, of the Chatsworth Rifles, has received an order from the War Department, to take vigorous measures for immediately making up the strength of his regiment by recruiting.

M. L. CHARTON, who many years ago sang at the Opéra Comique, in Paris, and at the St. James's Theatre, in London, is now singing in Rio, where her success in "La Traviata," is said to be very great.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON has decided that he will be godfather, and the Empress godmother, of all the legitimate children born in France on the day of the 16th of March.

THE SPEAKER gave his sixth and final Parliamentary dinner on Saturday last.

THE TARTARS in the Crimea intend to follow the Allies in the event of their evacuation.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE OF PARMA has issued a decree allowing the exportation of rice, which had been prohibited two years ago on account of the scarcity of food.

THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY is suffering most severely from the effects of a fall when hunting.

MR. BUCHANAN has had an audience of her Majesty, and delivered his Letter of Recall as Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States of America.

"MARIA STUARDA," by Maffei, the tragedy in which Madame Ristori obtained such enthusiasm in Paris last summer, has just been reproduced at the house for Italian plays with an equal success.

LORD STANHOPE stated at the festival of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution, that a portion of the papers of the late Sir Robert Peel, consisting of memoirs written by that statesman himself, would shortly be published.

BARNUM, according to the American papers, is unable to meet the demands of his creditors.

A SURVEYOR OF WORKS has been appointed for the parish of St. George Hanover Square, at a salary of £450 a-year.

THE COUNT DE PERSIGNY, Ambassador of France, on receiving intelligence of a Prince's birth, caused a Te Deum of solemn thanksgiving to be sung at the French chapel, at the conclusion of High Mass.

NO FEWER THAN 10,000 patients are stated to be in the various French hospitals at Constantinople, typhus and scurvy being the complaints.

THE MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS OF WOLVERHAMPTON, have, in imitation of Birmingham, Manchester, and Bristol, resolved upon establishing a Chamber of Commerce.

MRS. COWDEN CLARKE, whose clever story, "The Iron Cousin," met with so much critical approval, is writing another work of fiction.

LORD PANMURE, owing to the pressure of business in the War Department, will not be able to absent himself from the metropolis during the "parliamentary recess."

THE QUEEN is said to contemplate a visit to Portugal this season.

A RETIRED LONDON WATCHMAKER committed suicide last week, by precipitating himself from St. Paul's whispering gallery into the nave, a distance of nearly 150 feet.

SIR COLIN CAMPBELL has appointed Lieutenant Alison, 72nd Highlanders, youngest son of Sir Archibald Alison, Bart., at present with his regiment in the Crimea, one of his aides-de-camp.

M. SAUVAGOT has presented to the museum of the Louvre, his magnificent collection of works of art, for which he sometime ago refused £20,000, offered by an English speculator.

THE EMPRESS ELIZABETH OF AUSTRIA will be confined at the chateau of Luxembourg, four leagues distant from the capital.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL has decided that provincial postmasters are not compelled to weigh letters to enable the public to know what postage-stamps should be affixed to them.

THE RIGHT HON. E. STRETT, M.P. for Nottingham, has, it is said, declined the offer of a peerage.

THE PAROCHIAL AUTHORITIES OF ISLINGTON have introduced into the workhouse the novel feature of a library of about 500 volumes of works on general literature for the use of the inmates.

MR. TOTTENHAM has this week been elected Member for New Ross.

MR. ANDERSON, the "Wizard of the North," has addressed a letter to the newspapers, protesting against the insinuations thrown out in regard to the fire at Covent Garden.

THE HOME BAR OF IRELAND have presented to Lord Chief Justice Lefroy, an address expressive of the admiration entertained by them of his high judicial qualities and dignified character.

THE RETIREMENT OF MR. FAGAN from the representation of Cork is spoken of.

THE KING OF SAXONY has authorised the creation at Leipzig, of a Crédit Mobilier establishment, with a capital of twenty millions of thalers (seventy-five millions of francs).

A MAN NAMED GRIFFITHS, a pantaloan at various theatres, committed suicide on Sunday, by cutting his throat.

THE HON. G. M. DALLAS, the newly-appointed Minister from America to the Court of St. James's, has arrived at the Brunswick House Hotel, Hanover Square.

THE PARIS BUTCHERS continue rebellious to the Prefect's ordinance relative to the sale of meat, notwithstanding the strict surveillance exercised by the authorities.

THE BEY OF TUNIS recently invited the principal European inhabitants in his capital, to assist at the marriage of one of his daughters with his Minister of Finance.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT is occupied with a plan for the construction of a railroad from Toulon to Nice, to be continued to Genoa, and great advantages are anticipated from an undertaking which will so closely unite Piedmont with France.

DR. CHALLICE, who has distinguished himself for many years past, in urging and introducing sanitary and social reforms, has been elected, by a considerable majority, officer of health for the important manufacturing parish of Bernondsey.

COLONEL PERCY, of the Anglo-Turkish Contingent, and Captain Edwards, of the Scots Greys, from the Crimea, on leave of absence, have been at Madrid en route for England.

BIRTH OF AN HEIR TO THE HOUSE OF BONAPARTE.

Early on the morning of Sunday last, the 16th of March, the cannon of the Invalides announced to the half-awakened inhabitants of Paris, that an heir had been born to the Imperial throne of France.

The event had been anxiously expected on the preceding day; for it appears, that very early on Saturday morning, the Empress beginning to feel seriously the pangs of labour, that notice was sent round to the Princes of the Imperial family, by the Princess Essling, Grand Mistress of the Empress's household. The attendance was prompt. Amongst those who were summoned to the Tuileries was Prince Lucien Louis Bonaparte, who had only arrived from London on the Tuesday evening before. He had met with a severe accident in his own house before leaving; from a piece of marble falling where he happened to be standing, and breaking the great toe of his left foot.

Aware of the approaching *accouchement* of the Empress, the Prince was anxious to be in Paris at all risks; but the agony he suffered from the journey was intense. When he received notice from the Palace, he expressed his desire to be present, but the pain and inflammation in the foot were such that the Emperor desired he should remain quiet in the Rue de Rivoli, and that he should be represented by the son of Prince Charles (of Camino). The summons was sent round to the Ministers, the Senate, Deputies, Council of State, and the high functionaries of the Government. The Senate soon after assembled at the Luxembourg, and the Deputies at their Chamber. The Presidents of those bodies and the high functionaries of State proceeded to the Palace of the Tuileries, to be in attendance.

Numerous groups had congregated from an early hour on the Place du Carrousel, and in the gardens and terraces of the Tuileries. Preparations were made at all the public buildings for illuminations; the first sound of the cannon of the Invalides was awaited with anxiety, and the artillerymen were standing at their guns, with matches lighted, the whole of the day, expecting every moment the signal flame from the Tuileries. Independently of the political importance attached to the event, great interest was very generally felt, and good wishes breathed for the safe delivery of the Empress.

In the chamber of her Majesty, were the Emperor, the Countess of Montijo, the Duchess d'Essling, and nurse and doctors. The grand dignitaries of the State were assembled in the Salon Vert, near the chamber of her Majesty. In the adjoining salons were the aides-de-camp of the Emperor, and the officers of the Imperial household.

During the whole of Saturday and throughout the night, the physicians in attendance, seeing the Empress a prey to such sufferings, believed that her delivery was at hand, when a mitigation of her pains intervened and retarded the event so impatiently desired. The Empress then either enjoyed a little repose or walked in her room, looking with delight at the multitude assembled in the garden in front of her windows. The Emperor is said to have encouraged and consoled her by the most tender and affectionate expressions. He told her that all the churches were crowded with the faithful praying the Almighty for her delivery, and that all Paris was offering to Heaven the most ardent wishes in her behalf. The Empress felt her courage redouble at the idea that she was the object of such universal sympathy. Finally, on Sunday morning, a few minutes before three o'clock, the sufferings of her Majesty assumed so decided a character that it was deemed advisable to call in the princes and grand dignitaries of the empire to witness the birth of the Imperial infant. It appears that the sight of so many persons produced an effect upon the Empress, which suspended for a moment the operations of nature. Her Majesty then experienced the most excruciating agony, which the skill of the physicians succeeded at last in allaying; and at a quarter past three o'clock the Imperial infant came into the world.

The Emperor, who never ceased for an instant to bestow the most tender cares on the Empress himself, at once ordered the salute to announce to the Parisians the birth of an Imperial child.

THE SALVO.

The people who were waiting outside the palace to learn the result of the Empress's travail on Sunday morning were apprised of the event by two candlelights being placed at one window; had it been a princess only one light would have made its appearance. Soon after, the assembled multitude were still further gratified, when 101 guns proclaimed the birth of a Prince; thereupon there arose a murmur of universal satisfaction. Couriers were seen leaving the Tuileries on horseback, and carriages were driving about at full speed; in fact, the Rue de Rivoli looked as animated as if it were mid-day.

A curious incident caused some emotion during the firing of cannons at the Invalides. After the twentieth discharge there was a pause, and only a minute afterwards the twenty-first salvo was heard. The invalid whose duty it was to fire off the gun, having a wooden leg, fell to the ground when moving backwards and forwards.

THE PROCES VERBAL.

The young Prince is reported to be of so robust a constitution, that he is nearly as big as the child of his nurse, which is two months old. He is described as rosy, plump, well made, fully developed, and with a surprising abundance of chestnut-coloured hair, resembling his father's.

Immediately after the *accouchement*, the infant was presented by Madame Brat, Governess of the Children of France, to the Emperor and to the Empress, to Prince Napoleon and Prince Lucien Murat, and to the Minister of State and to the Keeper of the Seals. The *proces verbal* of his birth was then entered upon the Registry of the Civil State of the Imperial Family by his Excellency the Minister of State.

MESSAGES TO FOREIGN COURTS.

Within a few minutes of the birth of the Prince, the Emperor sent messages in his own name announcing the event to the Pope, the Queen of England, the King of Sardinia, the Queen of Sweden, the Grand Duchess Dowager of Baden, and some other Courts. It is a very curious fact, as showing not only the wonders of the electric telegraph, but also the activity of great personages at hours when the world at large is wrapped in sleep, that telegraphic messages of congratulation were received in answer before six o'clock from the Pope, Queen Victoria, and the Queen of Sweden.

In an hour or two after, telegraphic despatches were sent from the Foreign Office to the various diplomatic agents of France on the Continent; and the one transmitted to Dresden was received and an answer returned, with the usual congratulations, in about an hour and a-half. Notice was, of course, at once sent to the representatives of foreign Powers in Paris, who, in the course of the morning, proceeded to the Tuileries and left their names. Inquiries were made as to the propriety of the plenipotentiaries presenting in form their respects at the palace, but it was intimated that it would be better for them to do so on Monday at the same time as the members of the resident diplomatic corps.

MEETING OF THE SENATE AND LEGISLATIVE CORPS.

The Senate and Corps Legislatif remained the whole of the Saturday in their respective palaces, waiting for the announcement of the birth. To beguile the tedium of the long hours of expectancy, they not only made ample provision of eatables, champagne, and cigars, but sent for music, and invited their wives and daughters to keep them company. After remaining *en permanence* till half-past one in the morning, a message was received from the palace, granting them leave to go home. They could, however, have had but little sleep, for between three and four o'clock most of the members were knocked up by their private messengers bringing the great news, and by eight o'clock they were again assembled in public sitting, waiting to receive the official communication of the intelligence. The Senate, as they are compelled to do by the constitution, sat with closed doors. To the Corps Legislatif the public were admitted. The proceedings were very short. The President, Count de Morny, on taking the chair, said in a voice betraying much emotion:—

"Gentlemen.—This night, at four o'clock, the Emperor sent an orderly officer to inform the Corps Legislatif of the happy deliverance of the Empress. Her Majesty gave birth to an Imperial Prince at a quarter past three. (Cries of 'Vive l'Empereur!' from all parts of the house.) I see, gentlemen," continued the Count de Morny, "that you participate in the joy of all France. Vive l'Empereur!" cried the President, "Vive l'Impératrice! Vive le Prince Imperial!"

These cries were enthusiastically repeated by the Assembly, and when silence was restored, the President informed the deputies that they would be received on Monday, at the Tuileries, by the Emperor, whereupon the Chamber adjourned.

THE MASS.

About mid-day, the Emperor, accompanied by the members of the Imperial family, the Ministers, the Presidents of the Senate and Legislative Body, and the Grand Master of the Ceremonies, entered the chapel of the Tuileries. The Bishop of Adras having celebrated mass, the Abbé Delplace rose, and, taking for his text those words of the Gospel, "Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini," called down the blessings of the Almighty on the new-born Prince, and thus concluded his invocation:—

"Bestow on him the genius and magnanimity of his father, the kindness and inexhaustible charity of his mother, the sincere faith and devotion of both; and, to sum up these wishes in one word, bestow on him a heart worthy of his destiny and of his name."

THE PRIVATE BAPTISM.

After mass, the Imperial infant was brought in by his governesses, and the ceremony of the *onduiment* was performed with much pomp. Near the altar, on the Gospel side, stood Cardinals Dupont, Gousset, Donnet, and Marlot, and M. Legrand, curé of St. Germain l'Auxerrois, the Imperial parish. Opposite, on the Epistle side, were the Bishop of Nancy, first chaplain of the Emperor, and his clergy. In the centre of the Sanctuary, in front of the Emperor's arm-chair, was a table, covered with white drapery, bearing a splendid silver-gilt baptistery. Next to it were the Admirals and Marshals of France and other high dignitaries, the Grand Masters of the Imperial Household, and the Masters of the Ceremonies; the Princess Mathilde and the Ladies of Honour of the Empress. The Emperor presented the Prince to the Bishop of Nancy, as First Almshouse, who was attired in a white cope and the mitre, and bore the cross. The Bishop, assisted by the Curé of St. Germain l'Auxerrois, wearing his stole, took the baptismal water in a golden vase, and poured it upon the head of the infant, pronouncing at the same time the sacramental words, amidst the deep and devout attention of the assembly. The Bishop then sang the "Te Deum," which was continued by the choristers of the Imperial Chapel, accompanied on the organ and harp; and the baptistery having been removed, the parish priest placed on the table the two registries in which the baptismal act of Napoleon Eugène Louis Jean Joseph, *fils de France*, was inscribed. The reasons for these names are very simple. He is called Napoleon and Louis after his father; Eugène from his mother Eugénie; Jean after the Pope, who is to be his godfather, and Joseph in compliment to his intended godmother, the Queen of Sweden, whose name is Josephine. The Emperor signed it on both registers, after which the same formality was gone through by Prince Murat, the Duke of Alba, Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War; M. Troplong, President of the Senate; and Count de Morny, President of the Legislative body. The "Domini Salvum" was subsequently chanted, and the Bishop having bestowed his benediction on all present, the Emperor left the chapel, and was conducted back to his apartments by the same personages who attended him on his arrival.

PROCESSION TO THE IMPERIAL INFANT'S APARTMENTS.

The baptismal ceremony having been thus performed, the Imperial child was carried to his apartment by the head nurse, accompanied by her sub-nurses, the General Commanding the Imperial Guard, and the Esquerry on duty. On the way thither, the infant with its attendants had to pass through the suite of rooms in which the various Ministers of State and other important functionaries were assembled—the newly born prince was of course an object of great attraction, and all present were eager in their attempts to obtain a passing glimpse of him. Their curiosity gratified, the Imperial child finally reached the apartment appropriated to him, where were assembled the persons appointed by the Emperor to wait upon his newly-born son. Later in the day the Emperor received the felicitations of the grand dignitaries of the empire. The Legislative Body, the Senate, and the Corps Municipal were informed of the event by officers of the household of the Emperor, and Palms were distributed to all the persons present at the Tuileries.

PRESENTS TO THE EMPRESS.

It is gratifying to find how much the Empress is loved and respected. On occasions such as this, the lip interprets the heart, and many were the kind things said of her in Paris on this momentous occasion. From the day the Empress came to the throne she has displayed her amiable disposition in a thousand ways. She has founded charitable institutions, and bestowed gifts on the poor. All who have approached her have gone away admiring as much the woman as they respect the Empress of the French. It is not wonderful, therefore, that such an immense number of presents for the Empress and the Imperial infant have lately been sent to Paris, that it has been found absolutely necessary to send orders to all the railway stations and diligence offices in the country not to receive any parcel for such a destination. The money spent in paying for the carriage has been enormous. Of course very few could be accepted, and the greater part were returned to the senders with thanks for their offer. The carriage of all these returned parcels was paid by her Majesty. Many of the presents were of a very odd character. Among the gifts for the infant was an enormous case of honey; but the most singular present of all those offered is the following: A woman in the South of France sent for the Empress's acceptance an extremely dirty girdle, which the donor said she had worn for seven confinements; and as she had had only boys, she thought the Empress would be glad to wear it for luck.

REJOICING IN PARIS.

The preparations for illuminating the city had been going on all Saturday night in every quarter of Paris, and as soon as the intelligence of the great event was universally known, thousands of flags decorated the boulevards and principal streets. So general was the sign of rejoicing, that, on looking down a street, the more distant houses appeared to be completely covered with gay drapery. There was a holiday look about the people, who here and there collected in groups, and speculated as to the name of the Imperial Prince. Preparations had already been made at all the public establishments for illuminations and the display of flags. Many of the houses on the Boulevards were decorated with streamers; the theatres were profusely hung with them, and the flags of England, France, Turkey, and Sardinia floated united at this moment of rejoicing, as they did in the long and dreary hours of suffering and danger. The satisfaction so generally expressed at the Empress's delivery, was in no wise diminished by the improvement in the health of Prince Jerome, who, it was feared, was about to quit the world at the moment his little nephew was entering it. Even the Emperor, who generally displays so much reserve, expressed himself to those around him in words of joy and thankfulness to Divine Providence. In the Departments of France the news of the birth of the Prince was received everywhere with great rejoicings.

Nothing like the illuminations on Sunday night have, for many years, been witnessed in Paris. Even in the back streets and lanes, in more than one quarter of the capital, where, probably, no lights were ever hung out before, there were few indeed without their illumination—some of the most modest kind, it is true, but all evincing goodwill on the part of the occupants. In some streets off the Boulevards, ordinarily not much frequented, several houses were lighted up in all their storeys. The blaze of gas from the Ministry of Marine and the Garde-Meuble lighted up the whole of the Place de la Concorde, and the Legislative Chamber was beautifully designed in flame. Coloured lamps were suspended along the railings of the garden of the Tuileries, and the Rue de Rivoli looked an endless avenue of light. The Hotel de Ville was magnificently decorated; its *façade* covered with flags and escutcheons displaying the Imperial arms. The oriflammes that floated in the wind were marked with the date "16th March, 1856." Perhaps the most tasteful as well as most brilliant decoration was the triumphal arch erected in front of the Bourse. At the top, in coloured lamps, were the words, "Au Prince Imperial!" and at either side, "Vive l'Empereur!" and "Vive l'Impératrice!" At the opening of the arch were suspended coloured lamps. At the sides were Venetian masts with streamers, on which were inscribed the words, "Vive l'Empereur! Vive l'Impératrice! Confiance, Sécurité, Crédit, Prospérité!" in gold letters. The effect was so admirable, that during the whole of the evening crowds of persons thronged the place to gaze upon it. The Boulevard was one line of light from the Madeleine to near the Bastille. Crowds of foot passengers were constantly on the move, notwithstanding the rain, which, though not very violent, fell incessantly from an early hour in the evening. The domes of the Pantheon, Val-de-Grâce, the Invalides, and the ancient towers of Notre Dame, and the spires of St. Jacques, stood out in bright relief from the sombre sky; and, wherever the eye could reach, coloured

lights, disposed in capricious forms and of varied tints, presented an *ensemble* the most picturesque. From the Faubourg St. Honoré the illuminations extended a long way beyond the Barrière du Roule to the villages of Thernes and Champeny, Neuilly, Courbevoie, Asnières, Suresnes, as far as the eye could penetrate. Among the public edifices, the Palais Royal, the residence of the Princes Jerome and Napoleon, was not the least remarkable for the richness and taste of the decorations. A cord of light marked the architectural proportions of the *façade*, and immediately over the entrance the Imperial escutcheon was displayed, the minutest lines and details of which were accurately designated in flame. To the right and left, two eagles with wings outstretched were encircled by flags and shields. The buildings of the New Louvre were lighted up with gas, and the effect produced by the reflection of the white stone of which they are composed was very fine.

About ten, however, the rain came down so heavily as to thin the crowd, and by half-past eleven o'clock the dense masses had disappeared.

THE BIRTH OF THE KING OF ROME, SON OF NAPOLEON I.

The birth of a son, the heir to his name, and the inheritor of his crown, seems to complete the measure of the marvellous prosperity which has lately marked the eventful life of the present Emperor of France. It occurred within four days of the anniversary of another birth that was encircled with a yet more brilliant halo of glory. On the 20th of March, 1811, 45 years ago, the guns of the Invalides proclaimed to this same city of Paris that the first Imperial throne had an heir. We are told by eye-witnesses, not much advanced in years, of the joy displayed on that occasion; how the first discharge on the morning of the 20th roused, as if with an electric shock, the population of the capital; how each sounding report was counted with breathless anxiety till the twenty-first peal was heard; how, when twenty-one guns had been fired, which were to indicate the birth of a Princess, the anxiety of all grew to an intolerable pitch; how, when the gunners paused some minutes before the next piece was fired, hundreds of thousands held their breath; and how, when the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th—for then there could be no misreckoning—pealed, double charged, the people sprang up and gave vent to their joy in shouts of enthusiasm! It would, perhaps, be too much to report such an outburst of exultation now. People have become so *blasé* in revolution, so accustomed to overthrows of dynasties and to changes of government, that whatever fund of enthusiasm they might have once possessed has been pretty well exhausted. It is true that the first Napoleon was then in the zenith of his power—from the 20th of March, 1811, to the first disasters which awaited him beyond the Niemen. The empire, with the States possessed by the Imperial family, then counted not less than 57,000,000 souls. But it is not less true that the moment was fast approaching when his power, unexampled in modern times, began to decline, until it fell to ruin. The clouds were already beginning to darken the horizon. The seeds of the conflict with Russia, which was to end in the stupendous catastrophe of Moscow, had already been sown. The father of the present ruler of France, wearied with the exigencies of his imperious brother, had abdicated in despair the throne of Holland, which he could no longer hope to fill as an independent Sovereign. The incorporation with the French empire of the Valois, the annexation of the Hanse Towns, and the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, the ruler of which was the brother-in-law of Alexander, and which brought the French Empire to Lubeck, within sight of the Russian frontier, awakened the jealousy of Russia, and justified the suspicion that the restoration of Poland was at hand. The refusal of Napoleon to ratify the Convention of Champagny, the ukase of the Czar relaxing his decrees against English commerce, the resumption of the kingdom of Hanover from Jerome, were among the precursors of the storm that was to follow. Yet all these symptoms of approaching decline were, in the mind of Napoleon, more than compensated by the birth of the King of Rome on the 20th of March, 1811. The circumstances attending which are thus described by Southey:—

"Napoleon's wishes were crowned by the birth of a son. The birth was a difficult one, and the nerves of the medical attendants were shaken. 'She is but a woman,' said the Emperor, who was present; 'treat her as you would bourgeoisie of the Rue St. Denis.' The accoucheur, at a subsequent moment, withdrew Napoleon from the couch, and demanded whether, in case one life must be sacrificed, he should prefer the mother or the child? 'The mother's,' he answered; 'it is her right!' At length the child appeared, but without any signs of life. After the lapse of some minutes, a feeble cry was heard; the infant, thought to be dead, was awakened from its lethargy by the discharge of one hundred and one pieces of cannon. Napoleon entered the ante-chamber in which the high functionaries were assembled, and announced the event in these words:—'IT IS A KING OF ROME.'

"The birth of the heir of Napoleon was received with as many demonstrations of loyal enthusiasm as had ever attended that of a Dauphin; yet the joy on this occasion was far from universal. The Royalists considered the event as fatal to the last hopes of the Bourbons; the ambitious generals despaired of any dismemberment of the Empire. The old Republicans who had envied Bonaparte's despotic power, as the progeny of the revolution, looked forward with deep distrust to the rule of a dynasty fond of shedding the blood of the haughtiest of all the royal houses of Europe, and, consequently, were more likely to make common cause with the little band of hereditary sovereigns than with the people. Finally, the title 'King of Rome' put an end to the fond hopes of the Italians, who had been taught by Napoleon to expect that after his death their country should possess a Government separate from France; nor could the same title fail to excite some bitter feelings in the Austrian Court, whose heir-apparent under the old Empire had been commonly styled 'King of the Romans.'"

But the most interesting event of all connected with the birth is the letter of the divorced Josephine to the Emperor, her still dearly-beloved husband, on the birth of this child, and for whom she had been discarded. This truly affecting epistle runs in the language following:—

"Sire,—Amidst the numerous congratulations which you receive from all parts of Europe, from every town in France, and every regiment in the army, can the feeble voice of a woman reach you? And will you condescend to listen to her who so often consoled you in your sorrows, and assuaged the pangs of your heart, when she speaks only of the happiness which has just crowned your wishes? Being no longer your wife, dare I offer my felicitations on your becoming a father? Yes, doubtless, Sire! for my soul renders the same justice to yours as yours to mine: I conceive what you now experience as readily as you divine my emotions on this occasion: though separated, we are united by the sympathy which bids defiance to events.

"I should have been glad to learn the birth of the King of Rome from yourself, and not by the Cannon of Goreux, or Cuvier, the Prefect, but I am well aware that your first attentions are due to the members of the *corps diplomatique*, to your family, and, above all, to the happy Princess who has just realised your dearest hopes. She cannot be more tenderly devoted to you than I am; but she has had it in her power to do more for your happiness by assuring the welfare of France; she has, therefore, a right to your first sentiments, to all your cares; and I who was your companion in misfortune only, can claim but a far inferior place to that which Marie Louise occupies in your affection. You will have watched around her bed, and embraced your son, before you take up your pen to converse with your best friend. I will wait!

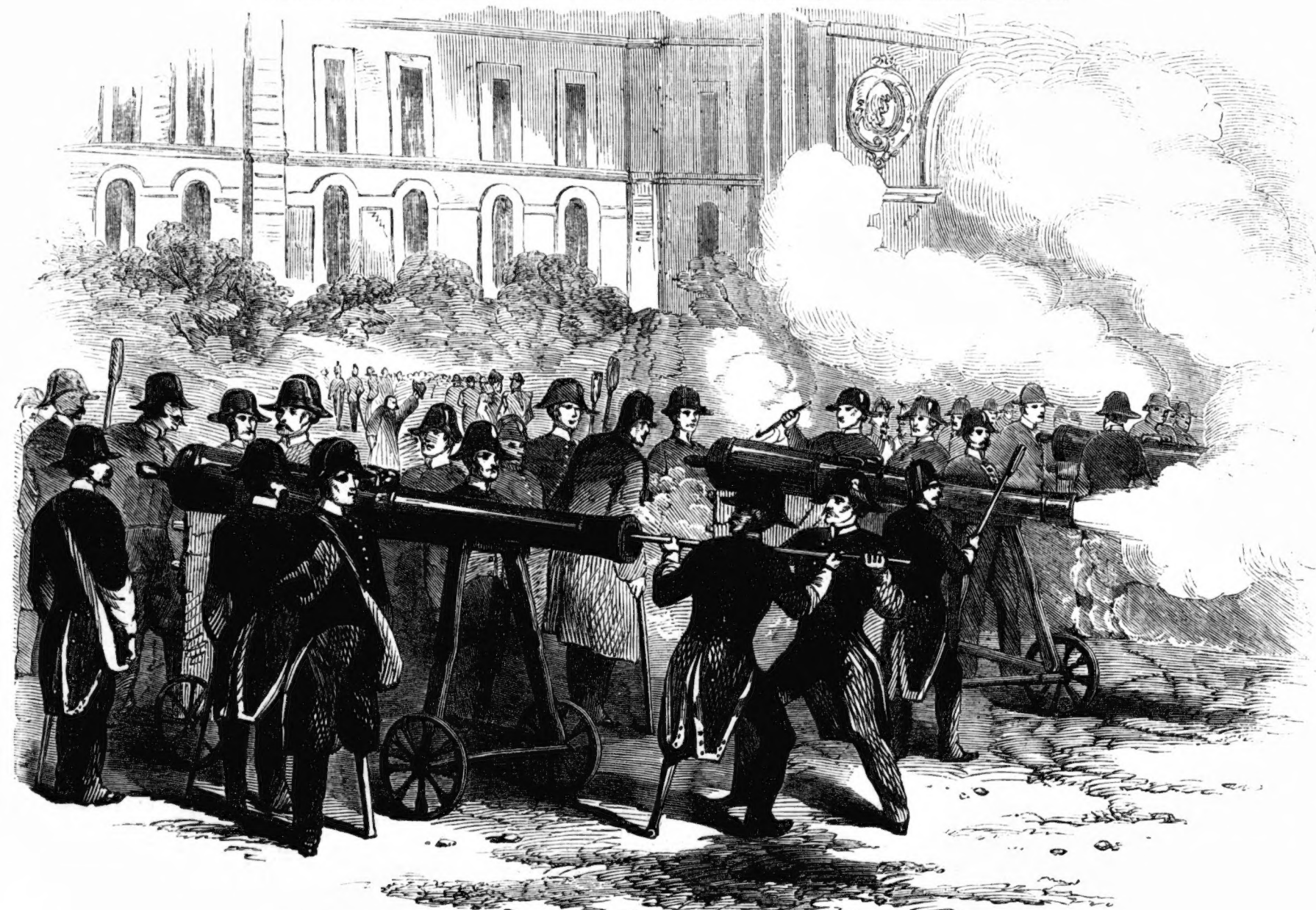
"It is, however, impossible for me to defer telling you that more than any one on earth I share in your joy. You will not doubt in my sincerity when I say that, far from being afflicted with a sacrifice, so necessary to the repose of all, I rejoice that it has been made, now that I suffer alone. Suffer, do I say? No, since you are contented, my only regret is, that I have not yet done sufficient to prove how dear you were to me!"

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF SWITZERLAND has commenced discussing the question of the separation of the canton of Ticino from the dioceses of Como and Milan.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF BERLIN, recognising the signal services rendered to the study of the Celtic languages by Dr. O'Donovan, has elected him a Corresponding Member of that learned body.



THE ARMISTICE IN THE CRIMEA—GENERALS TIMOIEFF, WINDHAM, MARTIMPREY, ETC., AT TRAKTIR BRIDGE.—(SEE PAGE 196.)



FIRING THE SALUTE OF 101 GUNS AT THE INVALIDES, IN HONOUR OF THE BIRTH OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE.



THE IMPERIAL PRINCE CARRIED BY HIS HEAD NURSE THROUGH THE SALOONS OF THE TUILERIES TO HIS APARTMENT.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

ROYAL ASSENT.

The Royal assent was given, by commission, to the Matiny, the Consolidated Fund, and some other bills.

TICKET-OF-LEAVE SYSTEM.

Lord DUNGANNON gave notice that he would, on the 2nd of May, move the following resolution:—"That experience proves that the system of granting tickets-of-leave is injurious to society, dangerous to the safety of property, and tending to increase, rather than diminish crime; and, therefore, it is important and desirable that Her Majesty's Government should take the matter into their consideration, and devise some means, either by providing employment at home or in the colonies, or otherwise, so as to relieve the country from this fearful and growing evil."

PRISONS.

Lord SHAFTESBURY, in moving for returns, called attention to certain facts disclosed in recent reports from the inspectors of prisons, showing that many of those establishments were in a very unsatisfactory condition both in a moral and sanitary point of view.

THE LATE LORD TRURO'S LAW LIBRARY.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE called attention to a letter from Lady Truro, communicating her intention to present the extensive law library collected by the late Lord Truro to the House of Lords. The Noble Marquis paid a high compliment to the character and attainments of the deceased Chancellor, and moved that the letter be referred to the Library Committee of their Lordships' House.

Appropriate remarks followed from Lord Lyndhurst, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Grey, and Earl Derby, and the motion was agreed to.

Lord MONTAGUE having commented at some length upon the law of partnership and joint-stock companies, their Lordships adjourned, at twenty minutes to eight, till Monday, the 31st of March, for the East recess.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE AMERICAN QUESTION.

Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Mr. Baillie, stated that the papers relative to the disputes with the United States would be laid on the table soon after Easter.

PRESENCE OF PRUSSIA AT THE CONFERENCES.—THE RECESS.
On the motion that the House, at its rising, do adjourn till Monday, the 31st of March,

Mr. DISRAELI called attention to the question he put on Thursday, relative to the invitation which was said to have been given to Prussia to join the Conference at Paris, and to which he received from the Prime Minister an answer not only remarkable but amazing. The circumstances rendered it impossible for him to give notice of his question, but on matters of high policy notice ought not to be necessary. Mr. Disraeli contended that the rule of secrecy laid down at the Conference did not apply to his question. Secrecy was impracticable in such a matter. He trusted the Noble Lord, on reconsideration, would think it not inconsistent with his duty to give the information required. Whatever might be the opinion of the Noble Lord, Mr. Disraeli thought that the country was to be congratulated on the accession of Prussia to the Conference. Prussia was the natural ally of England.

Lord PALMERSTON denied the rule of secrecy adopted by the Conference as wise and prudent, even as regarded by both Houses of Parliament. If questions were to be put in either House, founded upon telegraphic messages and newspaper articles, as to what was taking place in the Conference, no satisfactory adjustment of the great questions under discussion need be looked for. It was true that Prussia had been invited to attend the Conference upon some points connected with the treaties of 1840 and 1841, relative to the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, to which she was a party. It was felt from the beginning that Prussia would have to be asked to join the Conference, not as a negotiator, but to ratify such treaty of peace as might be come to by the Powers who had actually taken part in the war.

CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION.

Sir G. GREY gave notice that on the 10th of April he should ask leave to bring in a bill to reform the corporation of the city of London.

PERSIA.

Mr. LAYARD again adverted to the threatening aspect of our relations with Persia.

Mr. V. SMITH, in replying, stated that the ships sent to the Persian Gulf were despatched thither for the purpose of protecting British subjects and property. It was rumoured, he added, that Persia was preparing an expedition against Herat, but no authentic intelligence had as yet been received on the subject.

Sir DE LACY EVANS sincerely hoped that the Government would take care, and not let the country "drift" into a Persian war.

Mr. GLADSTONE believed that some danger of war with that country has been incurred on account of objects altogether insignificant. The House felt much uneasiness on the subject, and he trusted that before hostilities actually broke out some opportunity would be afforded for Hon. Members to express their opinion on the policy of embarking in another Eastern war.

THE ATTACK ON THE REDAN.

Colonel FRENCH having inquired whether any investigation would be made touching the causes which had led to the failure of the British attack on the Redan, Lord PALMERSTON replied in the negative.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

The House went into committee of supply on the Army and Ordnance estimates.

On the vote for distinguished services,
Mr. LAYARD moved to reduce the vote by £100, the sum proposed to be granted to Sir Richard Airey, with a view to the postponement of the same until after the result of the commission of inquiry be known.

Colonel NORTH defended Sir Richard Airey from the implied censure of Mr. Layard, and mentioned that the good-service pension conferred upon him was not for his services as Quartermaster-General in the Crimea, but for services rendered in various parts of the world.

Mr. PEEL opposed the amendment, on the ground that the pension was granted last year, and that it could not be suspended without prejudicing the case of the Quartermaster-General, and depriving him of an allowance of which he had already received a part.

On a division, the original vote was carried by 82 to 9.

On the vote for Kilmainham Hospital,

Mr. SPOONER moved that the sum be reduced by £50—the allowance paid to the Roman Catholic chaplain—maintaining that to support the Roman Catholic religion in any shape is a national sin.

The original vote was carried by 89 to 15.

The votes were all agreed to, and the House resumed.

LOCAL DUES ON SHIPPING BILL.

Mr. LOWE moved that the subject of this bill should be referred to a select committee. In making this motion, the Right Hon. Member had abandoned the form he originally prepared, and adopted the terms of the amendment proposed by Sir F. Thesiger.

Some remarks in defence of the proposal to abolish the local dues, especially those levied by the Liverpool Corporation, were offered by Mr. MILNER GIBSON.

Mr. WALPOLE renewed his protest against such an act of confiscation.

After some further discussion, and a defence of the course pursued by the Government from Mr. LABOUCHERE, the motion was agreed to.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.

Mr. BOUVIER obtained leave to bring in a bill for the improvement of the University and Colleges of Cambridge.

TESTAMENTARY JURISDICTION.

Leave was given to the Solicitor-General to bring in a bill to abolish the testamentary jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts, establishing in lieu thereof a new court of probate, and otherwise amending the law relating to the administration of the estates of deceased persons.

Sir F. KELLY also obtained leave to introduce a bill for the further amendment of the law of procedure and evidence.

The bills were brought in, and read a first time respectively.

The House adjourned at a quarter past one o'clock, until Monday, the 31st inst.

NEWS FROM THE CRIMEA.

LORD PANMURE has received intelligence from Sir W. Codrington, under date March 15th, that the armistice had been signed by the allied generals, and that the exchange of documents would take place on the 16th.

CONVENT GARDEN THEATRE.—The inquiry into the cause of the late fire was closed on Wednesday, when the jury returned a verdict to the effect, "That the theatre was destroyed by fire on the morning of the 5th of March, but how or by what means the fire originated, they had no evidence before them to show."

ROYAL PLATE ROBBERY.—The large oaken box which contained the Royal nursery plate, stolen on Saturday last on the South Wharf Road, Paddington, has been found in Bonner's Hall Field, near the entrance of the Victoria Park. It was lying on the grass. The hinges had been torn off by force. The thieves had abstracted the whole of the plate, and carefully removed the silver handles from two dozen knives. It appears from inquiry made by the police that a cab with two men in it drove up to the South Wharf Road, Paddington, just before the box was missing from the wagon on which it was placed, and there is no doubt the box was placed in the cab after it was stolen, and the plate removed between Paddington and Bethnal Green.

THE HEIR OF FRANCE.

On Tuesday the Emperor of the French received the Senate, the Corps Legislatif, the Council of State, the Municipal Council, the judges, the members of the Institute, the clergy of different religions, and deputations from the army of Paris and the National Guard, to offer their congratulations on the birth of the Prince. The Emperor received the company in the throne-room. Prince Napoleon was on his right hand. After presenting their respects to the Emperor, the constituted bodies of the State proceeded to the Pavilion of Flora to see the Imperial infant.

No one could fail to remark the excellent health of the young Prince, who slept almost all the time that the reception lasted.

The Emperor, in reply to a speech of the Count de Morny, said that his thoughts had naturally turned upon the destiny of the young prince, born like his son in the Tuileries, and that if, to assure a different fate for his child, he had faith in the cordial support of France, he relied above all upon that Providence whose intervention was so visible in the rapid and unhopied for re-establishment of order. He referred to the forty years of misfortune which had, so to speak, given age to his dynasty. He assured the Corps Legislatif that he should seek only in his popular origin for the strength of his Government, and that he would profit by the lesson of history which teaches moderation in success.

On the same day the Emperor received all the Plenipotentiaries of the Paris Congress, as well as the members attached to their missions.

PROSPECTS OF PEACE.

FROM all that can be learned in Paris, there appears little doubt that peace is all but decided. There may be certain points still to settle, but they are not of a character to affect the result. The Russians are described as now presenting no serious difficulty, whether as regards the "neutralisation" of the Black Sea, the transformation of Nicolai into a purely commercial port, the neutrality of the Aband Isles, the rectification of the Moldavian frontier based on the report of a commission, &c.

Count Walewski assembled his colleagues on Saturday last to read to them the protocols which are to serve as the bases of a definitive treaty of peace. A committee charged with the preparation of the treaty has been named. It is composed of Messrs. Hulner, for Austria; Bourquency, for France; Brunow, for Russia; Lord Cowley, for England; and Ali Pacha, for Turkey. It is probable that peace will be concluded some day before the 31st, in order to avoid the necessity of renewing the armistice in the Crimea. When peace shall have been signed, it is intended, we believe, that the Conference shall be dissolved, but that a committee shall be left sitting to carry out the details which there is not now time to arrange.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. XI.

"OLD CHARLEY" FIGHT—PREPARATION.

On Thursday, the 13th, at 4-15, "Old Charley" marched, or rather shuffled into the House, and took up his old position on the front Opposition bench, in the place usually occupied by Sir John Pakington, or very near thereto. And having untied his papers and placed them in order on the official box before him, he quietly waited until the disposal of "the private business" and "the questions" allowed him to open fire. At his usual post below the gangway sat Sir James Graham, the "Old Admiral's" principal opponent, with his papers and books ranged for handy reference, on the seat by his side. On the ministerial bench were the first Lord, Sir Charles Wood; the first Naval Lord, Admiral Berkeley; the Premier, and the Secretary to the Admiralty, Mr. Bernal Osborne; supported on either flank by the treasury subs, whose duty would be to cheer their chiefs at due intervals. "Old Charley" had no auxiliaries—nobody to cheer excepting such members as might choose to volunteer their help. Under such circumstances, the result could never for a moment be doubted. The fortress to be attacked was not St. Jean D'Acre, but a strongly-entrenched Government, defended by old soldiers who had for years been accustomed to wordy war—cunning at fence—knowing not only what to say, but what to leave unsaid—able to make "the worse appear the better"—up to all the arts of attorney-rhetoric, by which the strong points of an opponent can be glossed over, or skillfully kept back, and all his little discrepancies dwelt upon, magnified and made to appear to affect the very gist of the question at issue. And the attacking party was not an "old admiral" aboard a three-decker, with his guns shotted, and his men at quarters, answering to his signal, "ready, aye ready"—but an "old admiral" ashore, about to attack his foe, not with guns, but papers. "The Times" lately said that a dismounted dragoon was as useless an animal as a swan in Cheapside; but a sailor ashore, fighting battles with papers and speeches instead of cannon, is still more out of place. Ah! Charley! never attempt this again. Your enemies say—but, as we verily believe, not truly—that you were too slack in the Baltic to attack stone walls; but rely upon it, you had better dash into a Sveaborg or a Sebastopol, than come alongside such a battery as this—there you might get victory and honour, but here there could not possibly be any other fate for an "old admiral," but rout, confusion, and discredit.

Below the gangway we observed Sir Edmund Lyons, Sir Baldwin Walker, Sir Thomas Cochrane, on the heights, as it were, to view the battle.

HE OPENS FIRE.

At 5-5, Sir Charles opened fire, and finished at 8-5—thus spinning a yarn of three hours long—a tolerable achievement, as far as mere physical capability is concerned, for an "old admiral" over seventy. But from the first, it was quite evident that his defeat was certain. In the first place, the hour at which he began his speech was unfortunate. When he commenced the House was well filled, but at six the early diners began to move—at half-past there was a general gliding off. And long before he finished, not more than one-third of those who heard him begin were present to hear him conclude. And of those who remained throughout, some were fast asleep, others in conversation, and only a very few really knew much more of what was said than they would have known if they had stayed away. And to crown the whole, by finishing at eight o'clock, Sir Charles threw a very great advantage into the hands of his foe, for by a judicious arrangement that, after Sir Charles, the first Lord of the Admiralty should arise and speak for three quarters of an hour, Sir James was enabled to begin his reply just as the members had returned from dinner. This was a fortunate card for Sir James, because, of course, those who had been away would know nothing of what Sir Charles had said during their absence, but what his opponent was pleased to tell them.

HIS DEFEAT.

And so, in every way, the odds were against our "Old Admiral." We are not going to detail the operations any further. It is sufficient to say that Sir James managed the matter in his own style. What that is, all members of the House well know—but it is quite beyond our artistic powers to describe it. The result everybody knows. Poor "Old Charley" was, for the time, completely routed by Sir James. And to complete the defeat, there was no necessity for Admiral Berkeley's cruel attempt to rob the "Old Admiral" of the laurels which he won at St. Jean D'Acre, nor for Bernal Osborne to run tilt against a fallen foe.

Sir Charles, of course, got up to reply, but, exhausted by his former effort, his voice was so low that he could hardly be heard. The House was impatient, and therefore his reply fell flat and unprofitable. The end was, as all know, that he withdrew his motion.

"THE TOTTLE OF THE WHOLE."

And now, what is "the tottle of the whole?" Well, in these articles, we are not accustomed to utter opinions, but to describe scenes; but in this case, we venture to say that, to our minds, the country will not ratify the judgment of the House. And that there is no ground, whatsoever, for the charges of slackness which have been brought against Sir Charles. Only let him now, and for ever, pitch the pen aside, and make no more speeches about himself, but quietly wait, and he may rely upon it that the verdict of his countrymen and the historian will be, that he is a jolly "Old Admiral"—one of those sea-kings whom England alone can breed. And that he is, for all Sir Jimmy's cunning rhetoric, and the slander of officials, to the contrary notwithstanding, not the least among the many heroes whom his family has produced. And that is saying a vast deal.

As to the paper pellets which "The Times" pelts him with, an "Old Admiral" who has been in some scores of battles, and in every battle well known, can surely afford to treat them with contempt.

COBDEN HIMSELF AGAIN.

THERE has been nothing else of importance since, excepting a skirmish on Friday night, or rather Saturday morning, on the Shipping Times. It arose on a motion of Mr. R. Lowe, to appoint a committee, and deserves attention, because it brought out Cobden in his old style. Never since the Corn Law war has he spoken in our hearing, as he spoke on this occasion. There was just the same clearness and precision of statement, and forcible and clenching logic, which compelled Sir Robert Peel ten years ago, to confess that he was unanswerable. It was refreshing to hear him in his old strain. The Conservative member for Liverpool, who had just been talking in favour of these dues, in the usual style, denouncing the bill as an attempt to rob the Corporation of Liverpool of their property, &c., seemed actually to cower under the blows which Cobden dealt him, and the system which he defended. If Cobden had spoken on the debate upon the bill, we verily believe that the fortune of the day would have been changed. It was a sad mistake of the Government to withdraw the bill at the beginning of the evening.

THE EASTER HOLIDAYS.

THE House is now "up" till Monday, the 31st of March, the day that the Armistice closes. When it meets again, what will Lord Palmerston have to announce—peace or war?

MAY BE PROCURED THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER.

Vol. 1. of the "Illustrated Times," bound in cloth and gilt	7s. 6d.
Monthly Parts, 1 to 8, varying from	9d. to 11d.
Cases for preserving the Numbers during perusal	1s. 6d.
Portfolios to contain Six Months' Numbers	2s. 6d.
Cloth Cases for binding Vol. 1., Lettered and Gilt	2s. 6d.
Title and Index to Vol. 1., 1d.; Free by Post.	0s. 2d.

The whole of the back Numbers of the "Illustrated Times" are kept on sale.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

[STAMPED EDITION TO GO FREE BY POST.]

3 months, 3s. 3d.; 6 months, 6s. 6d.; 12 months 12s.
Subscriptions to be by P. O. order, payable to JOHN ROSS, 148, Fleet Street.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1856.

THE AMERICAN DIFFICULTY.

We have once or twice expressed our confidence in the pacific settlement of the transatlantic dispute; but it cannot be denied that it is a serious matter. If we suppose it settled shortly, it would still be worth inquiring why a large section of Americans have so bitterly fallen foul of us on the first provocation. Our Ministers behaved with reprehensible imprudence; but even the anger which this might cause cannot altogether account for the violence of Yankee journals. It is worth while inquiring what the general feelings of the two nations are towards each other; since anger, like fire, depends on the atmosphere, and if the peoples are really unfriendly, rows may constantly be expected, whether the present one end well or not.

A certain amount of jealousy prevails no doubt between England and America; and as quarrels between relations are the worst, it is no wonder that every now and then this jealousy breaks out into open antagonism. We offend the South by our abolitionist sympathies; and the North suspects us of a contempt for its institutions and its social pretensions. An ultra-aristocrat in England too often thinks it necessary to insult America when he has a pen in his hand, or when he is talking loosely. Travelling writers do the same mischief by gossiping in their books about the weakness of those whom they encounter in steamers and at hotels. Americans are more vivid and enthusiastic than we are—beyond all question more thin-skinned. A dart which John Bull laughs at, makes their skin rattle. When Cooper was over here, he appeared to think that everybody wanted to slight him. We fear that much of this is traditional—that the disgust which made the ancestor quit England, makes the descendant suspicious of it. On the other hand, those more refined and romantic minds who regard England as the country from which they derive their blood, who love our literature and our social elegancies—the "Sunny Memories" people, as we may call them—are not the most active and practical in the States. There is no hereditary element, nothing to transmit cultivation in classes. Public life across the water is a roaring, ever new mass, fresh with the feelings of the crowd; and so with its prejudices, violence, and susceptibility, playing through it. To lead this kind of society, a man must represent it, and be of it; hence, Yankee politics and Yankee mob notions act and react on each other. There is no time for mistaken prejudices to wear themselves out. Public life is ever renewed there from the uncultivated crowd. Of this fact, the demagogue is the exponent. The orator and the editor find their advantage in cherishing, what the superior man ought to consider it his vocation to put down. Whatever jealousy of Britain, or dislike of her institutions, exists among the people, is valuable to them as political capital. There must be some such jealousy and dislike; for we see that Mr. GORDON BENNETT, for instance, discusses the "whipping Bull" as an admitted luxury—a political sherry-cobblers. So that the difference of our constitution and theirs, is, in the eyes of their political leaders, almost a set-off against our community of blood.

The danger from the American side is, that the democratic form of their institutions may enable the violent party to triumph. No doubt there is a large public sober and prudent enough, but is that the noisy public which will really carry the matter? We see, here, ourselves, that activity carries the day. "Noise is power," as has been justly observed. Nothing is so propagandist as democracy; and we are sure that the violent democrats of the States think that a vigorous war against England would imperil our institutions. They have seen how we conducted the Russian war, and, not unnaturally, they think we are less formidable than we used to be. It is in their power to compel us to make war if they please, since the most pacific man must fight if he is buffeted in the face.

We heartily believe, however, that England is more quietly disposed than America. We have such a good opinion of ourselves that we don't want to fight for laurels. Our mob would rather fight any people than the people of the States; and our upper classes know the risks and dangers from a war, that would probably be unpopular, and might be disastrous. But what is to be done? Ministers have cried *peccavimus*, and the country condemns Ministers. They have

expressed their regret for the "recruiting," and have explained and apologized. The despatches are before us, and we find that our Ambassador, Crampton, "emphatically denies" the truth of "STROBEL's testimony and HERTZ's confession." We find also that CLARENDON argues that the offence committed was not technically a "recruiting," while at the same time expressing regret that cause of complaint should have arisen out of circumstances not deliberately intended to offend the United States. To this he adds, that when the fact became apparent that the States were adverse to the scheme, it was abandoned out of deference to them. These despatches, on both sides, are long-winded pieces of argument, which constitute a perfect paper war in polite language. They are sprinkled with quotations from Vattel and Wolfius, in some instances. Now, as the affair is done and over, as Government denies the intention of offending sovereign rights, or any other rights across the Atlantic, is it not high time that the exact apology required should be laid before us? If the Yankees will not be content with such an *amende honorable* as would satisfy any other Power, we shall be obliged to believe that the political discontent is only a pretext for gratifying the wrath which inspires BENNETT's black malignity, or deepens the muddy ink of a JEFFERSON BRICK.

We are perfectly certain that no party in this country desires an American war; no party has an interest in it; no statesman would very cheerfully undertake it, even on compulsion. At the same time, the Yankees ought to know that we still consider ourselves a great Power when brought to the "scratch," and that if our institutions would be imperilled by such a war, so would those of the Union. Let people only clearly see that Ministers had done all they could for peace, and that the States were still bent on war, and they would see that it was a question whether we meant to remain an independent nation or not, and would exert themselves to show that we did mean it.

Keeping this last resolution at bottom, let us avoid all speculations about naval blockades, black regiments landed in the South, &c. &c., and prepare ourselves for the discussions which are to follow the Easter recess, in a sober frame of mind. We will make every concession, and we know the circumstances in the United States constitution which make it charitable for us to make concessions. But, in spite of democrats, here and elsewhere, and in spite of all "crucian" offsets to the courage which has taken Russia by the beard, we are quite sure that our institutions are not yet "used up" any more than our men or our money. Why, in the name of common sense and civilisation, must we be driven to such arguments by our own flesh and blood?—Oh, fiery JONATHAN!

AN "OLD BOY" ON THE BENCH.

A WITTY and accomplished publicist has been discoursing lately in the "Quarterly Review" on the subject of "Table Talk." May we commend to him as the topic for his next criticism, a book not yet indeed written, but which might with ease be collated from the Law Reports in the newspapers, and published in a collected form, under the title of the "Jests of the Judges." A more curious and amusing museum of *ana* could scarcely be found, or one that would afford fuller scope for criticism and illustration.

Judicial jocularity would seem to be indigenous to these favoured isles. The French judge, too often appearing under the guise of a hectoring bully, seeking to extract an admission of guilt from the prisoner by a species of corkscrew, either of intimidation or of jesuitical sophistry, is still sedate and dignified: and would scorn a joke as he would a democrat. The German judge is an ill-tempered pedant, who probably never heard of a pun. The Italian judge is always in too great a passion with the prisoner to jest. But it is the proud privilege of the fifteen of England—wise, learned, virtuous, venerable as they are—admirable and unrivalled in integrity and uprightness, to be at the same time inveterate crackers of jokes; to be somewhat too much addicted to the substitution of a harlequin's bat for the sword of justice, and to temper the lugubrious sternness of the black cap, with a lively, but scarcely, we are afraid, appropriate fringe of twinkling bells. We will match the judges of England against the whole world for sound and clear heads; but why are they so fond of standing on them?

Judges' jokes are as old as Bracton. Sir Thomas More's witticisms (though he, by the way, presided in Equity) are historical. Bacon has left us the completest *recueil* of drolleries we possess. Lord Chief Justice Holt had a pleasant jest with a fellow he left for execution; and even the brutal Jeffries had his joke: when sentencing a prisoner to be whipped from the gaol to the market cross, and the culprit retorting insolently "Thank you, my Lord," he added humcrously, "And back again!" Factionists, but ferocious. To core nearer our own time, are not the puns of Lord Norbury yet fresh in the memory of the Irish bar? and are there not innumerable droll sayings of Lord Thurlow extant? In the present day, we are blest with a number of funny judges. Lord Campbell is as good as a play. Mr. Baron Martin is a notorious joker; and we have heard many smart things from the lips of Lord Chief Justice Jervis. Mr. Baron Bramwell has not won his jocular spurs yet; still we have no doubt he will turn out a rare punster in time.

But for a droll wag, a complete jest-book in scarlet and horsehair, commend us to Mr. Baron Alderson. He bids fair to achieve as great a reputation for his "funniments," as he has already (and most deservedly) done so for his wisdom and learning. As we have before hinted, we doubt the appropriateness of buffoonery in a court of justice, but we cannot deny to the Learned Judge our meed of praise for his most excellent feeling at the Maidstone Assizes, last week, in the case of "The Queen versus Skipworth and Hornell."

The action was one of indictment for conspiracy and assault, promoted by the next friend of a young gentleman, named Shepherd, a scholar at the foundation school at Tunbridge Wells, conducted by Dr. Whelden, against two of his schoolfellows. This Master Shepherd, it appears, was a day-boy at Dr. Whelden's, and a weakly, delicate, timorous, little lad, of such nervous temperament, and in such bad health, that his father requested on his going to school, that he should not be sent into the cricket-ground. Master Skipworth, however, aged 17, had different notions respecting cricket as a healthy and invigorating pastime; and one fine day, last May, he ordered Shepherd, as a "town-boy," to go into the ground and "fag" for him. The boy refused, saying, that his "papa" had ordered him not to do so. Now this, stated in evidence, does not seem to be excretingally funny; nevertheless, it prompted Mr. Baron Alderson forthwith to give vent to the following waggery:—"You should not have talked about your 'papa'; you should have said your father. If a boy talks about his 'papa' at school, he is sure to get into it." (Laughter.) Unluckily, Master Shepherd, it seems "got into it" without loss of time; for, on the following morning, on going to school, he heard

some of the boys say, "Oh, Shepherd, we would not be in your shoes!" Soon afterwards, the defendant Hornell (sixteen is this promising youth's age), dragged him to a place where some forty of the boys were standing, and there he held him fast, while Skipworth beat him over the arms and back, as hard as he could, with a cane. The beating was continued for three minutes, and till the school-bell rang; and the unfortunate victim being sick and faint with torture, was making the best of his way home, when he was advised by another of the town-boys, whom he met, to go back; which he accordingly did, and was punished by Dr. Whelden for being late. The defendants' counsel, Mr. James, then endeavoured to prove that the system of fagging did not prevail in the school. Baron Alderson, after expressing a wish that the practice might be abolished by mutual accord, added rather inconsistently, but always comically, "that if these sort of actions were encouraged, we might have five hundred from Eaton alone, every year." Whereat there was "much laughter"; and capped the joke by regretting that "the boy did not bear the beating without crying out." At which delicate and humane stroke of humour, the court positively roared. At this, Mr. James, not to be behindhand in drollery, suggested that "the more he cried the more he got thrashed." Finally, a verdict of guilty on the count charging a common assault, was, by consent, returned; and the question of costs was left to the Judge, who wound up the merry meeting by saying, that "he hoped the boys present would take the advice of an 'old boy,' and remember that they would no longer be considered as gentlemen, if they made any such 'distinctions' in future."

Now, it appears to us, without impugning the justice of the decision, that it would have been a little more discreet, and a little more decent, if Mr. Baron Alderson had consented, *pro tem*, to subdue his waggish propensities, and if he had adjudicated on the case without sneering at young Shepherd for the not very heinous offence of calling his father "papa," and without a palpable attempt to extenuate, if not to defend, the atrocious system of fagging in public schools. Nor can we see how it conduces to the right rendering of justice that Mr. Baron Alderson should abnegate the judicial wig and gown for the round jacket and turn-down collar of an "old boy"; and that he should, moreover, argue like a boy, and a very foolish boy indeed. We are aware, that in the minds of many an "old boy," there yet exists a vague, misty notion, that the waters of Helicon, to flow properly, must be mingled with brine; that the birch must be grafted on the bays, and that (we quote Canning in the "Microcosm") "the mind of youth, like the walnut tree, must be quickened in its advances to maturity by blows;" in other words, that fighting, flogging, and fagging, are as essential to the education of an English gentleman as Latin, Greek, and mathematics. Many very worthy "old boys" entertain, we know, these opinions, and uphold them as "thoroughly English." Baron Alderson may subscribe to them, too; but he should call to mind some other kindred practices—cockfighting, pugilism, duck hunting, bear baiting, and drunk-mess after dinner, not a whit less abominable and brutalising than the boy-tyrannies at Tunbridge, and which are also upheld by the "old boy" class as "thoroughly English;" but at all of which we are certain his humanity would revolt, and his sagacity condemn.

We are proud, we repeat, to acknowledge Mr. Baron Alderson as a learned and upright judge; we know that there is not one stain on his ermine, one speck of rust on his collar of S.S.; but we cannot withhold the expression of an opinion, that it would have been far more becoming in him to have visited such a system as "fagging" with indignant reprehension, than to have made it the vehicle for the delivery of sorry jests and silly platitudes; and we are sure we share with all those who admire and revere the English bench, the pain of seeing one of its most distinguished occupants descend to egregious frivolity in the treatment of a very grave question of right and wrong.

MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL.

CONSIDERABLE interest has been created by the assertion that the marriage of the Princess Royal of England with Frederick, son of the Prince of Prussia, is definitely decided on, and likely to take place in the course of the present year.

Our readers no doubt remember that, a few months ago, the intended bridegroom visited this country, where it would seem that he wooed and found favour in the eyes of the young Princess Royal. The attacks to which the Prince and the Royal family of Prussia were subjected at the time, from a portion of the press, will be fresh in recollection.

Among German princes, Prince Frederick William stands high. He holds the commissions of Major, "a la Suite," of the First Regiment of Foot Guards, and Chief and Colonel Propriétaire of other regiments in the Prussian service. He is the eldest son and heir of Frederick William Prince of Prussia, brother of the King, and heir to the throne. The Prince is more a soldier than a politician; but so far as his political feelings are known, they are held to be in accordance with the views of his father, who is a liberal. He is in his 25th year.

ARRIVAL OF THE KING OF THE BELGIANS.

THE King of the Belgians arrived at Dover on Monday, and immediately proceeded to the Lord Warden Hotel, where his Majesty and suite remained during the night. On Tuesday the King left by special train for Windsor Castle.

Two royal carriages were in waiting at the Bricklayers' Arms Station, and conveyed his Majesty and suite to the Queen's private station on the South Western Railway, at Nine Elms. Thence he proceeded at a few minutes before one o'clock to Windsor.

THE FRENCH PAPERS state that Meyerbeer is at last quite prepared to bring out "L'Africaine" (his "new" opera, of which the public are becoming tired without ever having heard a note of it) as soon as he can get a good tenor, a good *prima donna*, a good barytone, a good bass, and a preternaturally good orchestra and chorus. As an improvement on the title given to Herr Wagner's music, i.e., "music of the future," we suggest that Meyerbeer's music should be henceforth be called the "music of the conditional."

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE Imperial Crown of France has now a legitimate successor, the salvo of 101 guns has been fired, all the grandes and ladies of the Court have gone through their performances according to the wonderful programme issued last week, and Henri Cinq and the *Assemblée Nationale* will grind their teeth in fresh rage, and most likely lay the blame to England. This event, of such importance in the whole European political world, will probably tend to strengthen the alliance with England, and to the pacific solution of the Eastern question. The infant is stated to be of extraordinary size and apparently in the fullest health. Should he live, his will be a curious destiny; he has every prospect of being hailed Emperor, but so had that young gentleman who is modelled in wax at Madame Tussaud's, in Baker Street, and who died a colonel in the Austrian service.

The murder of M. Hinckley, for one can call it by no milder term, will, it is to be hoped, lead to some enactment for curbing the insolence of the young Prussian aristocracy. I know them well, and know that a more haughty, insolent, oppressive, insane race of men does not exist. They are mere Brummagem daudies, imitators of French morals

and English sporting tastes, but they take up a position in their own country, which is comparable only to that of the Russian boyards, who, by the way, are said to be subjects of their great admiration. From having acted conscientiously in the discharge of his duty, M. Hinckley is marked out for attack, he is sneered at and mocked, his wife and daughters are insulted by those cowardly ruffians; finally, he himself receives treatment which cannot be overlooked. His adversary, a professed duellist, has the choice of weapons, selects pistols, and the wretched Hinckley, who appears to have been utterly unused to fire-arms, falls dead at the first shot. The distance between the combatants was about 35 feet, and none but a thoroughly-skilled and vindictive man could have taken so true an aim. The murderer is arrested, but released on parole; and, on the day of Hinckley's funeral, holds a levee in his rooms. The King, with whom the deceased was a great favourite, is said to be furious, and to have actually assaulted (hitting one and kicking the other) M. Raumer and Count Camitz, who were charged to prevent the duel, and both of whom have since committed suicide. It is to be hoped that this opportunity will not be lost by the Prussian people: they have right on their side; the King is favourable to them; they should demand full justice on the assassin, and better regulations for protecting them from the insolence of the young aristocrats.

The catalogue of crime is still bravely filled. Two dreadful suicides, one from the whispering gallery of St. Paul's—one from the top of a house in Covent Garden; a burglary, with violence (and which met with a most spirited resistance), near Sheffield; the robbery of the royal nursery plate (evidently perpetrated by a person well acquainted with what are called, in official language, "the circumstances of the case"); several atrocious robberies, child murders, and the suicide of a wretched and desponding pantaloons, make a pleasant series of light reading for families in the Sunday journals.

Nothing is settled as to the opera prospects. Mr. Buckstone has refused to let the Haymarket Theatre; Mr. Lamley won't hear of a coalition; and Mr. E. T. Smith offers Drury Lane for four months, on condition that Mr. Gye will pay his rent for the whole year. Mr. Gye refuses. Suppose there were no Italian Opera! Should not we get on as well? A light French company, either from the *Opéra Comique* or the *Faudeville*, could take the St. James's, and by their aid we might actually manage to survive the loss.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

PASSION WEEK has this year brought with it an unusually large number of semi-theatrical entertainments. Like the old lady, who, compelled for a subsistence to cry mullins through the streets, "hoped to goodness nobody heard her," the Passion Week entertainers, availing themselves of gas, scenery, and dramatic writing, inwardly protest against being considered theatrical.

Mr. Emery, one of the best character-actors on the stage, has been giving an entertainment, called "The Tale of a Train," at Drury Lane, without doubt too large an arena for such a purpose. Mr. Emery cannot but act well; but on Monday night, when I saw him, he was so imperfect and so nervous that it was impossible to form any opinion of what his new venture may be like.

Signor Picco, and the members of the Orchestral Union have been giving concerts at the Adelphi: Mr. Adams has this year taken his time-honoured Oratory to the Princess's; Miss Emma Stanley has been giving her "Seven Ages of Woman" at Sadlers Wells, to the delight of the Islingtonians; and Mr. Henry Russell has been cheering the boys and striking the men, and been a maniac, and a ship on fire, and a gambler's wife, and all through his old round, at the Surrey.

Tell it not in Gath! The Amateur Pantomimic Company, who last year played before her Majesty at Drury Lane, will, it is said, perform in a new pantomime during the season.

"STROLLERS AND VAGABONDS."

THURSDAY, the 13th March, 1856, will be a day to be marked with a white stone in the annals of every person connected with the theatrical profession, of every lover of the drama, and of all those who are interested by the sight of the followers of one profession coming nobly forward in support of a sister art. Pursuant to public notice, at one o'clock on the aforesaid day, a general meeting of the members of the theatrical profession was held at the Theatre Royal, Adelphi, to take into consideration the necessity of immediately presenting a memorial to the Charity Commissioners, praying that in the revision of the funds of the munificent endowment, known as the College of God's Gift at Dulwich, the claims of the members of the dramatic profession may be duly considered.

The dress-circle and private boxes were thronged with ladies; the pit was filled with gentlemen, either connected with the theatrical profession or well known for the warm interest they take in dramatic affairs, while the gallery was reserved for the more humble working bees of the vast theatrical hive—the carpenters, supers, &c.

The chair was taken by Mr. Charles Dickens; and amongst the gentlemen on the stage were Sir Joseph Paxton, M.P., Mr. Webster, Mr. Buckstone, Mr. R. Bell, Mr. Vining, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Howe, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Girwood, Mr. Albert Smith, Mr. Peter Cunningham, Mr. Bartley, Mr. T. P. Cooke, Mr. Phelps, Mr. Meadows, Mr. Keeley, Mr. Evans, Mr. E. T. Smith, Mr. Roxby, Mr. Creswick, Mr. Cullenford, Mr. Harley, Mr. E. Yates, Dr. J. Wakley, Mr. J. Deane, Mr. Wigan, Mr. Neville, &c.

Mr. Dickens' affection for the drama and its professors is well known. Equally well known is the fact that in the art itself he excels every amateur, and in the melo-drama acting especially, (the performance in the "Light-house," to wit,) is equal to any professional of the day. It was my good lot to be present at a private representation of the "Light-house," and having, from circumstances, seen a good deal of acting, I give it as my decided opinion that Mr. Dickens' acting therein was only to be compared to Frederic Lemaître's most finished performances in his best days.

I can scarcely describe the effect of Mr. Dickens' speech upon his audience. Happily mingling humour with business, clothing both his ideas and facts in his own peculiar imagery, paying the greatest compliments to the dramatic profession, but, throughout all, never for a moment losing sight of his object, he set forth the present state of the College, and explained what was about to be requested, and then, leaving Mr. Webster to enter more into statistical detail, he resumed his seat amidst tremendous cheering.

Mr. Webster, serious to a degree—for this Dulwich College question has been a pet bantling of his for thirty years, and now that there is a chance of success his anxiety appears to have reached its height—read an account of his interview with the Inspector of Charities, and of the kindness with which that gentleman received and promised to support his modest appeal. Mr. Keeley then rose, and the instant the audience caught sight of him one roar of laughter ran through the house. But in a business-like manner, and apparently without seeing the slightest fun in the matter, Mr. Keeley put the following resolution:—

"That this meeting has before it the following proposition made by Mr. Webster to the Commissioners of Charities:—That one actor and actress, as in-door pensioners; that one actor and actress, as out-door pensioners; that four children of actors and actresses be placed upon the foundation of the Upper School; that four children of actors and actresses upon the foundation of the Lower School; and that the selection of the most deserving claimants be made by the committee of the Drury Lane, Covent Garden, General Theatrical Fund, and General Dramatic, Equestrian, and Musical Sick Fund Association, as most likely to be acquainted with the merits of the applicants; and that this meeting is of opinion that such proposition involves a just, reasonable, and moderate recognition of the claims of the poor players to participate in the great extension of Dulwich College proposed by the said Commissioners."

Mr. Buckstone, in seconding the proposal, said, that fun was expected from him, and he went in to be funny accordingly. Then came the two veterans, Mr. Harley, and Mr. T. P. Cooke; and the other speakers were Mr. Phelps, Mr. Creswick, Mr. Wigan, Mr. Robert Bell, Mr. Albert Smith. The resolutions were carried with the greatest enthusiasm, and there is good ground to hope that the theatrical profession, which numbers amongst its followers some of the most honourable, hard-working, benevolent men, may shortly have a claim to share in the benefit provided for society, by a "stroller and a vagabond." Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Dickens for his presence, and to Mr. Webster for his untiring zeal and energy.



MEETING AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE,
TO ADVANCE THE CLAIMS OF ACTORS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROFITS OF DULWICH COLLEGE.

HUNTING SKETCHES—NO. IV.

I HA' seen a many studs, more I dessay than most men—more than half the fellows as have their pictures taken, either sittin' on 'ossback or standin' at the animal's 'eads, with John So-and-So, the celebrated whipper-in of such and such a pack, wrote underneath. But of all the studs of 'osses, or all the packs of dogs, give me old Lord Melbury's, as I live first whip with when I were a youngster. He were a rum 'un, were the old lord, but a fust rate sportsman, and no mistake. He'd been very wild when a young man, up to all manner o' games, and got through a precious sight of tin. Had his hunters up at Hoxford, and hunted reglar three times a week, druv' tandems and four 'oss drags, and went the pace so fast that

the head coves up there was down upon him, and ordered him to cut it. After that he went abroad in furrin' parts; there he stayed till he were quite middle-aged. In fact, he were a bald-headed, steady-lookin', elderly-lookin' man when he were about forty years old. When he come back he lived for some time in London, and while there he fell in love with a play-actin' woman, one of the nicest sweetest ceceturs as ever I set eyes on. I'd heerd many stories of play-actin' women, and I thought they was all painted Jezebels, a flauntin' and daucin' about, and never happy if they were'n't being constantly admired and made a fuss with. Lor' bless you, this were a little quiet innocent gal, lookin' upon the old lord as one of the finest and grandest of men, and so mild and good-tempered, that she soon became a

favourite with everyone. There were only one thing as was found fault with and that were natural enough, goodness knows. She was uncommon fond of her father, and were always wantin' Lord Melbury to have him to stay with her. Now the father weren't by no means the sort of company for Lord Melbury's friends. He were an old gent with a face shaved werry close, and cut werry short, and a voice deep as a trumpet. He used the finest words and never spoke anything under half-a-dozen syllables. Fitzherbert used to call hisself, though they said his real name was Cogges. He ways drunk too much wine, and then spouted Shakespeare and other writins'. When he used to come down to the Hollies, Lord Melbury's place in Lincolnshire, he was a reglar subject of fun for the young gents, and sportin' swells as was stoppin' there. They used to trot him out on every occasion, and he'd tell 'em such whoppers of what a fine feller was that they was ready to bust with laughin', and the old Lord was werry vexation. Well, one day, Lord Melbury, who'd set up his stud of the pack of dogs I was speakin' of, was laid up with the gout, and could come down. So, after dinner, while the gents was a drinkin' their werry good old Cognac, and began to draw him. One of 'em, cially, Honourable Tom Ringwood, were fust-rate chaff; and, after the got old Cogges's test stories—how he dined with the Lord Lestertuin in Ireland, how he once fought a doosl, ekketterer,—Honourable Tom Ringwood says to him, says he, "Fitzherbert, are you any good at huntin'?" says he. "Good at huntin'," says old Cogges; "when I were in Ireland there was few in the county Galway," he says, "as cared to follow my jumps." "That's all right," says Honourable Tom Ringwood, "for there is a meet to-morrow, and you shall go with us." Now old Cogges were a funk, and tried werry hard to get out of it, but the company was too much for him; so the next mornin', havin' had my orders, I takes a pair of own boots round to Cogges's door, knocks him up, and tells him his werry ready. If the old lord had been about he'd never have suffered such a gag, but he were laid on his back with the gout, and knew nothin' of it. Honourable Tom Ringwood comes round to the stables and says to me, "Are you goin' to give Mr. Fitzherbert?" says he. "Why," says I, "no light weight, Mr. Ringwood, and I was thinkin' of saddlin' old Juniper." I says, "No, no," says he, bustin' with the laugh, old Juniper's a too steady goin' a old nag for such a fierce Nimrod as Mr. Fitzherbert. I saddle on Gay Lass," he says; "and listen, Jack, hook up the curlied tightish, d'y' see?" When I brought the nags round to the door, the werry fellows got round old Cogges, and shuddled him out amongst them, for he was afraid Lady Melbury would see him, and stop his gown, but he'd a thimbleful of brandy with his breakfast, and were as jolly as a grig, singin' about a "Southern wind and a cloudy sky," and roarin' out some o' his own a "bright chanticleer" and a "old Towler." Well, off we went, an' I along all werry merry at fust, a laughin' and jokin' till we come to Noss Bottom, where we found. Rattlin' away with a good bust, we went on the flat land by Green's Folly, down Mullin's meadows, and up Thorpe Wood, where there were a cheek. All this time bein' clear o' terrin', old Cogges did tolerable. His knees stuck rather out, and I feel had slipped through the stirrup-irons up to his insteps, and point out on each side his 'oss like little wings; but he hadn't got over the thimblefull, and there were still a grin on his face. In about three minutes, the deep voice of old Daphne told us she'd found; Tom Ringwood roars "Tally-ho!" and off we started. I see old Cogges strugglin' to shout "Yoicks," but Gay Lass give a jump at the time, and he werry near bit his tongue in two. Turnin' now across Parson's Green, we come to two or three longish furrows, and the first jump were a highish bank with a thin hedge on the top, and a nasty bit o' dyke on the other side. Then I kep my eye on old Cogges. Gay Lass tossed her head just before comin' to the bank; Honourable Tom Ringwood shouts, "Farrard, old boy!" at the top of his voice. I was over fust, and turnin' in my saddle, as Gay Lass come at the jump beautiful; and as she rose, I see old Cogges fly like a firework band over her head, and come down on his hands and knees. "Hollo!" shouts Honourable Tom, "that's a drop scene, and no mistake;" whilst a young swell, who didn't know Cogges, and only saw the largest part of him, roars, "Yah! take care, gen'l'men; something from the prize cattle show stops the way!" Old Cogges never hunted again.



HUNTING SKETCHES, NO. IV.—(BY PHIZ.)
A DROP SCENE.—"HOLD HARD! SOMETHING FROM THE PRIZE CATTLE SHOW IN THE WAY!"

AN INKSTAND AT THE PEACE CONFERENCES.

The inkstand represented by the accompanying engraving, is of solid silver washed with gold, and interesting, not only as a piece of workmanship, but as a historical curiosity. We understand that it was designed for some special occasion during the first empire, but, somehow or other, it was never used. When arrangements were made, however, for holding the Peace Conferences in Paris, it was resolved to place this inkstand, as an ornament, on the centre of the round table of the *Salon des Ambassadeurs*; and, accordingly, it was sent to a shop to be cleaned, and put into order. No one in the shop, it was discovered, could for the life of him open the various compartments, and it was returned to the officials.

The matter, as may be supposed, excited considerable interest in a small way, and became the subject of conversation, till it reached the ears of an old man in the Ateliers, who had seen many days, and also many dynasties. "Ah," said he, as sad memory brought the light of other days around him, "I comprehend it all; that inkstand was made in a house where I was apprenticed." Of course, the old man was sent for, and shown the inkstand. On its being placed before him, he touched the springs with his fingers, and the compartments flew open. Among others there appeared a drawer wherein was a paper, in which it was stated that the value of the article was sixteen thousand francs (£640).

WINDOW GARDENING. AND THE CULTIVATION OF PLANTS IN ROOMS.—NO. IV.

We have been asked for some "practical" directions for the arrangement of floral objects in sitting-rooms at the present season. To fulfil this request satisfactorily, the suggestion should combine three essential qualities. It should be beautiful, easily produced, and inexpensive. The true criterion of taste is the production of agreeable effects with small means. Nothing is so easy as to purchase expensive exotic flowers from the florist, and a magnificent stand from the bronzist or cabinet-maker. But the presence of such objects in an apartment is no evidence of "taste;" it is merely a sign of wealth. On the other hand, let some ordinary objects be wrought into a novel, pleasing, and graceful combination, evidently the production of the presiding spirit of the place, and the presence of taste and refinement is at once manifested.

We have lately seen an example of this kind of simple taste in the arrangement of a basket of double blue and double white primroses, the



MAGNIFICENT INKSTAND IN THE CONFERENCE CHAMBER AT THE FRENCH FOREIGN OFFICE.

effect of which was exceedingly beautiful. The colours form a more delicate and pleasing contrast than light blue and white, and the profusion with which these well known garden favourites throw up their flowers, double as roses, renders that contrast very striking. To produce such a basket of primroses as is described, in great perfection, it will only be necessary to attend to the following directions, and an elegant addition to the drawing-room window is produced, which will last for several weeks. If your own garden does not afford, say, four roots each, of double white and double blue (or rather lilac) primroses, they may now be procured in Covent Garden at 2d. per root. Having obtained the plants, take a common pie-dish, or any other earthen

vessel of the kind, suited to the form of the picturesque basket you intend to use. Next take a piece of thin deal, or some other wood, and, having cut it to the size of the bottom of the dish, perforate it with a number of

small holes, about a quarter of an inch in diameter. Then place in the bottom of the dish, at equal distances, three strips of wood, about three-quarters of an inch deep each way. If upon these the flat perforated piece is lodged, an empty space below will be provided, which will ensure thorough drainage. And without such thorough drainage, the foliage of the plants would turn yellow, and the buds would cease to open kindly, for nothing is more injurious to plants in such a situation than the accumulation of water about the roots. Place over the holes a slight layer of moss, to prevent the soil from dropping through, but not so as to impede the drainage. A layer of light rich soil may then be added, and the receptacle will be ready for the plants to be placed within it. Take the primrose roots, and if they have been compressed tightly together, like a ball, as is frequently done to take them to market, open them slightly, leaving some of the fibres rather free, and place them, according to your taste in the disposition of colour, in the pan. Then fill more soil in between them, pressing it slightly down round each plant. The next process is that of lining your basket with moss, and, having placed the pan within it, and covered the whole with moss, you place it neatly between the plants. Water may be given, but not too profusely. The basket should then stand in a situation where there is not too much light, and no sun, for about three days, after which it may be placed in the situation it is intended to occupy, where it will, if all the pre-arrangements have been duly observed, flourish luxuriously till the whole of the flowers have expanded. But care should be taken to shield it from a mid-day sun until the plants are thoroughly established.

In a former article, the subject of ornamental flower-pots was slightly touched upon, and an example given of a flower-pot formed of a material in imitation of rock-work. Pots of this description produce an excellent effect in combination with rock-work, or on a stand of very rustic character, but are, of course, unsuited to stands and other positions that have a thing of this character about them with which they can tastefully com-



A CORNER FOR THE CURIOUS.

[We purpose to devote, week by week, a corner of our paper to subjects of antiquarian, literary, artistic, and romantic interest, and we invite the contributions of our subscribers towards rendering this limited space as entertaining as possible to general readers. We need hardly say that matters interesting only to the mere antiquary or the mere scholar are not the class of contributions we are anxious to receive. The subjects we shall touch upon will be essentially of a popular character, and we hope, in the course of a few weeks, to have so far developed our plan as to succeed in indicating alike the wide range, as well as the precise character of subject, that we intend this "Corner for the Curious" to consist of.]

A preference will, of course, be given to materials that have not previously appeared in print; and it may save our correspondents some trouble, if we inform them that novelty will be an essential feature of our plan, and that, consequently, oft-repeated descriptions and hacknied illustrations will be inadmissible. Such of our correspondents as are not expert at handling the pencil or pen, will, perhaps, occasionally assist us by referring us to suitable materials which lie buried in the pages of scarce or expensive books.]

NO. I.—THE GREAT BELL OF ST. PAUL'S.

In the suburbs of London, when the wind has been in the right direction, and the night tolerably still, we have often, near midnight, listened to the dull, incessant, and roaring sound which then comes from the giant city. As the hour approaches, one chime after the other rings out from the various steeples, until the whole forms a sort of clanging music, from which it is difficult to distinguish individual sounds, until the great bell of St. Paul's peals forth its solemn and deliberate *bang! bang!* The sound of this bell, the successor of the famous one of old St. Paul's, calls up many interesting recollections.

On the old cathedral was a tower of stone, in height from the ground 260 feet, on which was a spire of wood, covered with lead, 274 feet high. In the tower was a celebrated peal of bells; and above the stonework was a dial, richly chased and gilt, on which was the figure of an angel, pointing to the hours of both day and night—a device more appropriate than most of the clock-hands in present use. From this lofty steeple, which formed such an important feature of old London, the chimes rung merrily on saints' days and holidays; and at times the choristers mounted up aloft and chaunted forth their orisons at dawn and sunset—a custom still observed at Durham Cathedral. Before the great fire of London, the spire of St. Paul's was more than once destroyed or damaged by fire and lightning.

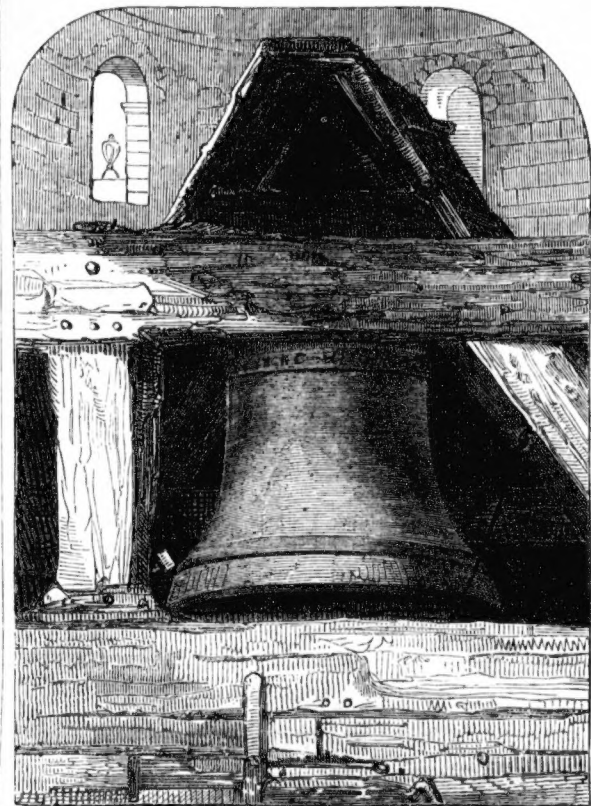
On Candlemas Eve, 1444, about two o'clock in the afternoon, the steeple was fired by lightning. The citizens came forth and succeeded in overcoming the fire; which, however, broke forth again at night, and but little of the spire was saved. In the year 1561, in the month of June, there fell a prodigious quantity of rain, attended with thunder and lightning. St. Paul's steeple was again struck within a yard of the top. At first, a small flame appeared, resembling the light of a torch; in eight minutes the weathercock fell, and the wind rising high, the fire within an hour afterwards destroyed the steeple down to the very battlements, and then, in consequence of the mass of burning timber that fell from the spire, it burnt so violently that the iron-work and the bells melted and fell upon the stairs in the church. The east and west roofs now caught fire, which speedily communicated with the north and south, and all were destroyed. Much damage was also done to other parts.

The spire was again reared, and the damaged bells properly replaced. In addition to the bells in the tower of old St. Paul's, there was a common bell, the property of the city, hung in a suitable building, closely adjoining to the Cathedral, which was rung that the inhabitants might assemble at wardmotes and other important occasions. Another fire damaged the ancient church, and then the great fire of 1666, swept steeples, bells, churches, and all before it. Several years were spent in the re-building of St. Paul's, and it appears that for a long time afterwards no great bell was raised.

It is worthy of note that the first great bell of new St. Paul's, was the well known "Tom" of Westminster, which, for many centuries, had hung in a strong tower close to the great door of Westminster Hall. This clock-tower was standing in 1715, and the occasion of its being built, is mentioned by Maitland, as follows:—

"A certain poor man in an action of debt, being fined the sum of 13s. 4d., Radulphus Ingham, Chief Justice of the King's Bench in the reign of Henry III., who, commiserating the case, caused the court roll to be erased, and the fine reduced to 6s. 8d., which being soon after discovered, Ingham was amerced in a pecuniary mulct of 800 marks, which was employed in erecting the said bell tower, on the north side of the said enclosure, in which tower was placed a bell and a clock, which, striking hourly, was to remind the judges in the Hall of the fate of their brother, in order to prevent all dirty work in future."

From some cause, "Tom of Westminster" was sold. William III. was the purchaser, and presented it to new St. Paul's. This bell stood for many years under a shed in the churchyard before the steeple was cleared of the



THE GREAT BELL OF ST. PAUL'S

scaffolding, and the clock had not been long finished and the bell raised, when it was cracked. It was afterwards re-cast by one Wrightman, but proved so faulty that Sir Christopher Wren employed Mr. Phelps, a bell-founder of repute, to make another bell entirely of new metal, and of increased weight. Mr. Phelps' bell has continued since that time to ring forth the hours with short intermissions, and toll at the time of death of any of the members of the Royal family, Deans of the church, and on such occasions as the funerals of Nelson and Wellington. The weight is stated to be 11,474 lbs., and its diameter 9 feet. A correspondent of the "Antiquarian Repository," who remembered the breaking up of Wrightman's bell, observes that at the time, it was stated that a sentinel escaped punishment for being found asleep at his post, on Windsor Terrace, by mentioning, that he had heard the great bell at London strike 13 instead of 12. There was no great bell fixed in St. Paul's; so that if the story be a true one, it must have been "Tom of Westminster," whose notes extended as far as Windsor.

In former times, bells were christened with much solemnity, and the Westminster bell was originally called Edward, in honour of Edward the Confessor. Many have wondered how the change of name took place; the most probable explanation is, that at the Reformation the reverence for the sanctity of the bells became diminished, and that, in some instances, they were by public consent re-christened by more familiar names.

It may be worth while to mention that the clapper of the great bell has been twice broken—once on the occasion of the death of the Dowager Princess of Wales. It is now struck, when needed, by the same hammer which strikes the hour. The height of the tower in which the bell is placed is 280 feet; the circumference of the clock-dial is 57 feet; the hour hand, 5 feet 5 inches in length; and the figures, 2 feet 7 inches.

THE NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADOR.

On Friday, 14th inst., pursuant to appointment, his Excellency Mr. G. M. Dallas, the new American Minister, who had arrived on the previous day at Liverpool, was waited on by a deputation of the Liverpool American Chamber of Commerce. His Excellency received the deputation with the greatest courtesy. In the name of the chamber, the Chairman congratulated Mr. Dallas on his safe arrival in this country.

Immediately after the deputation left, Mr. Dallas walked out in the direction of the railway station, where, being pointed out to Mr. A. derman Parker, that gentleman, acting as a member of the Law Courts Committee, invited him to visit St. George's Hall—a courtesy which his Excellency at once accepted, and, accompanied by his secretary, the Minister, Mr. Alderman Parker, and another gentleman, proceeded to inspect the hall. His Excellency, who was most affable to all with whom he conversed, expressed himself greatly pleased with the stately proportions and beautiful details of the hall, both externally and internally; he also declared his great approbation of the beauty and elegance of the small concert-room-up stairs. The steam apparatus for blowing the organ bellows not being in operation, it was impossible for him at that moment to hear the organ, but, being invited to return at four o'clock, when everything would be in readiness, he did so. On this occasion he was accompanied by Mrs. and the Misses Dallas. Immediately on their entering, the organ struck up "Hail Columbia," after which was played "Rule Britannia," and, having given an improvisation from "Les Huguenots," concluded the performance by playing "God save the Queen." All of the distinguished visitors appeared much gratified by the attention paid to them, and of the fine quality of the organ.

His Excellency, together with his family and attendants, left Liverpool by an early train for London on Saturday. Mr. Dallas has been several times in this country, and was intimately connected with the diplomatic arrangements for settling the last war between the United States and this country. He is a plain, unassuming man, about five feet nine inches in height, having an erect carriage and white hair.

COUNT ORLOFF'S MUSCULAR STRENGTH.—At a grand dinner which he gave, hearing a lady admire a magnificent bouquet placed in one of the ornaments on the centre of the table, he took it out to present it to her, but, finding the ends of the flowers wet from the water placed below, he imagined on the instant a porte-bouquet of a new description. He took up one of the silver-gilt plates, and rolling it up like a sheet of paper, he placed the bouquet within it, and in that position sent the flowers to the lady!

THE TURKISH PLENIPOLENTIARY.—Ali Pacha, the Grand Vizier, is a fine specimen of an old Turk, though he is as yet young and enjoys all the advantages of an accomplished European education. He has the majestic dignity of an Osmanli, the easy and refined manners of a gentleman, and treats those in whom he confides with frank cordiality. He speaks both English and French. As long as Turkey has such men as Ali Pacha, she will live in spite of the whole of Europe, if ranged against her.

COUNT ORLOFF'S IDEA OF NAPOLEON III.—"The greatest vexation of my life," said the Count to an eminent personage in the French Government, "is that I know the Emperor Napoleon, is that my late master the Emperor Nicholas did not know him. If he had seen him but half an hour, not only would there not have been any war, but the best relations would have been established between the two sovereigns and the two countries. The Emperor Napoleon has precisely those qualities which would have produced an effect, and exercised an influence, upon the Emperor Nicholas."

THE GOLDEN ROSE.—On the Fourth Sunday in Lent, the Pope gave his benediction to the Golden Rose at the Sixtine Chapel. It is said that it will be sent to the Empress of the French. It is a very ancient rite of the Romish Church that the Pope should, on the day just mentioned, bless a golden rose, which it is a custom to send to a sovereign, to a celebrated church, or to some eminent personage. If it be not presented to any one, it receives a second benediction the year following. This present was substituted for the gold and silver keys, and for the pieces cut with a file from the chains which are said to have bound the hands of St. Peter, which were formerly sent.

FANCY FAIR IN THE THAMES TUNNEL.—A fancy fair on a somewhat extensive scale took place in the Thames Tunnel on Monday. The whole length was illuminated with variegated lamps, flags, and banners in the shafts. There were also cosmographic views of the Indian battles, a view of Sebastopol, a pavilion of arts, and many other attractions.

RIFLE SHOOTING IN THE CRIMEA.—A large number of boxes of tobacco, about twenty, are now lying in the parcels office, Balaklava. They are a present to the army from the Queen, and the Commander-in-Chief has determined upon giving it as prizes for the best rifle shooting.

A RETIRED DETECTIVE.—Sergeant Langley, for twenty-seven years attached to the London Detective Police, has retired from the service on a pension of £80 per annum. Langley's history is connected with some of the most remarkable delinquents this country has produced. His capture of the murderer Manning in Jersey, and more recently the mode in which he assisted in bringing to justice Hatto, for the murder of his fellow-servant at Barham, are fresh in everybody's recollection; but perhaps his crowning professional effort was the capture in America of the bankrupt Leaman, who absconded in 1846 with several thousand pounds in his possession. A large portion of this money was recovered by Langley; and the assignees were so well pleased with the judgment the officer displayed, that they presented him with a cheque of £100, in addition to the reward that had been offered. Langley will be especially missed on the race-courses throughout the country, where his presence has for many years past acted as a wholesome check on the intrusion of thieves and improper characters.

FOOT MATCH AT WINDSOR.—Lieutenant Augustus Lumley, 2nd Life Guards, and Major Maxse, of the Grenadier Guards, walked a match, the other day, of ten miles, over two miles of flat ground. The gallant officers were very evenly matched up to the ninth mile, when Mr. Lumley "made a spurt," and beat his opponent by a long distance.

LOLA MONTES IN AUSTRALIA.—This lady took her departure on the 21st of November, in the Havilah, for Adelaide, where she has been engaged for a limited period. On her return she proceeds to Ballarat, at which place a theatre is being expressly fitted up for her. On her return from Ballarat to this city, she will give a farewell performance prior to her final departure from this Colony to South America.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.—On Monday morning, according to annual custom, a grand service was performed in the Roman Catholic Chapel, Solo, dedicated to the patron saint of Ireland, the sermon being preached by the Right Rev. Bishop Morris. At one o'clock the children of St. Patrick's School were regaled with a good dinner at the society's house in Stamford Street.

THE BRIGANDS OF GRECE.—Fresh successes have just been obtained against the brigands. The chiefs of the band, Panourgia and Platys, have been killed, one in Boetia, and the other in the Valtos. Panourgia was killed by one of his companions, named Ulysses Madrodes, who has been following him from place to place ever since last December in order to take his life. He was killed on the 24th of February, near Levadia, his head having been smashed in while he was asleep with a large stone. The chief of the band, Platys, was killed in the Valtos, by some shepherds whom he had compelled to give up their sheep to him. The brigands, pursued on all sides by the armed force and by the inhabitants, anticipate their complete destruction.

THE SUSPECTED WIFE POISONING AT LEEDS BY STRYCHNINE.

On the morning of the 12th instant, the inquest on Mrs. Harriet Dove, aged 28, wife of William Dove, of Burley, near Leeds, was resumed in the Leeds Court House, which was densely crowded, and upwards of 200 ladies occupied the gallery.

Dove now appeared to be somewhat affected by confinement, or anxiety of mind, or by both. His appearance was more careworn and haggard. During the adjournment he had not been sent to Armley Gaol, to which prison offenders are generally committed on remand, but had been allowed to remain in Leeds Jail, under the care of Mr. Hugh Barrett. His conduct while under the charge of Mr. Barrett has been most exemplary; his spare time either being employed in reading the Bible, or in conversing upon its passages. As the prisoner led an irregular life previous to his apprehension on this charge, such a change in his demeanour is the more striking. He has been for some time living retired upon an annuity of £100 a year. He strongly protests his innocence of the dreadful crime with which he is charged.

Mrs. Witham was recalled, and said—On the 10th ult., the prisoner came into Mrs. Dove's bed-room with a packet of white powder, and said to witness, "I have brought some strychnia to poison cats with." I said, "I hope you will take care where you put it; I am afraid of my dog getting it if you put it in the yard." The prisoner said he would take care. Mrs. Witham then repeated her previous evidence, with some additions, which were not material.

Mr. Barrett cross-examined Mrs. Witham, but nothing new was elicited. Mr. Barrett adverted to an erroneous rumour that Mrs. Dove was pregnant at the time of her death.

The Coroner—No such evidence was given, and I believe it to be incorrect.

Mrs. Fisher, re-examined, said that Mrs. Dove took a draught on Friday night, about ten o'clock. It was administered by Mr. Dove, and seemed to be of a lighter colour than that of her medicine. In an hour and a half after taking this draught, Mrs. Dove was seized with spasms. [The witness here appeared to faint, and was removed to the outer hall. She was very nervous and agitated during her evidence.]

Henry Harrison, dentist, 5, North-road, South Market—I have known the prisoner Dove for sixteen or seventeen months, and remember having a conversation with him two months ago, about Palmer's case, at the New Cross Inn, South Market. He sent the daughter of the landlord for me on that occasion, and I read over Palmer's case in the newspaper to him. He then said, "Can you get me or make me any strychnia?" The landlady, Mrs. Walker, also heard this inquiry. I replied, "Not for the world." He said he could get some strychnia, if I would not supply him. Then he went to the door, and I asked the landlady, "Did you hear that?" and she said "Yes." There was nothing more said about strychnia until this day week, when I met him at the same house. I now remember that it was last Thursday that I last saw him, and it would be about half-past two o'clock. He sent for me on that occasion. Some mention was then made of an inquest. He asked me if they could detect a grain of strychnia or a grain of salt? I replied, "Well, you have not given your wife some, have you?" He replied, "No; but Mr. Morley's man gave me some to poison a cat with, and some may have been spilt, and she may have got some; and the cat is in the midden." A man named Storey was also in the bar at the time.

Wm. Storey, a broker, gave similar evidence.

Mrs. Ann Walker, of the New Cross Inn, also deposed to Mr. Dove's conversation with Harrison, and said, during the conversation Harrison took up the paper to read. It contained the case of Palmer, which he read; and in the course of a short time, perhaps half an hour, Mr. Dove said to Mr. Harrison, "Will you make me, or get me, a bottle of strychnia?" Harrison replied, "No, sir." The prisoner said, "Why not?" Harrison said, "Not for the world." Then the prisoner went out to the stone at the back door, and Harrison then said to me, "What do you think about it?" There was nothing particular occurred after the prisoner returned. He said, I believe, that if Mr. Harrison would not get it for him, he would get it elsewhere.

The Coroner said—In consequence of something that has transpired, which may, however, not be material, he should adjourn the inquest. The inquest was adjourned accordingly.

Before the prisoner was removed from the court, he was placed before the magistrates (he being now in the custody of the police), and formally remanded until the result of the inquest had been ascertained.

When the inquiry was resumed on Monday, the court was again crowded.

In answer to a question from the Coroner—

Mr. Nunneley said—Since last inquiry, Mr. Morley and myself have again examined the stomach of Mrs. Dove. I will state the result. It having occurred to us since the last examination that it might be possible to subject a portion of the substance of that we had obtained from the stomach of Mrs. Dove by the process before described, although the larger part had been consumed in the application of the various tests already mentioned, it might perhaps be possible to exhibit its effects on animals, and thus show, by the symptoms induced in them, such an evident and unmistakable proof of the presence of strychnia as should demonstrate its existence in her stomach in a manner that should be free from all possible sources of error. We therefore determined to give it to different animals. We divided the stomach into three portions, analysed a portion of it, and gave the result of that analysis. We now proceed to show what was done with the remainder of the stomach.

Mr. Morley then read the additional analysis of the contents of the stomach. It was as follows:—

"As a further test of the presence of poison in the stomach, and one which as nearly as possible would amount to demonstration, we determined to try whether the spirituous extract obtained from the contents of the stomach, already shown by chemical tests to contain strychnia, possessed really the poisonous properties of the substance. We selected for experiment two rabbits, two mice, and one guinea pig, and as the most exact method of acting upon such animals with small quantities of poison, we applied it by inoculation through small openings either into the cellular tissue beneath the skin or into one of the serous cavities of the body. One of the mice had a portion administered into the mouth. In each of these five animals thus submitted to experiment, the characteristic effects of poisoning by strychnia were produced. In three of them (two mice and a vigorous rabbit) death ensued respectively in two minutes, twelve minutes, and fifty minutes, from the first introduction of the poison. The symptoms preceding death were, disturbed respiration, general distress, convulsive twitches or jerks, tetanic spasm, a peculiar outstretching of the legs, and general rigidity of the body, symptoms which are exactly those commonly produced by strychnia. In the fourth animal, a rabbit, the symptoms were equally well marked and decisive; but although the animal lay for a time nearly dead, it afterwards revived, and eventually recovered. In the guinea pig the effects were at first much more slight, the spasms were not so strong as to throw it down or entirely disable it, but on the following day it was found dead, with the muscle rigid, and the hind legs extended, as if from the effects of the poison. For the purpose of comparison, we conducted at the same time a parallel series of experiments on other animals with ordinary strychnia. In these animals the symptoms were exactly similar to those produced in the five acted on by the poison extracted from the body of Mrs. Dove. They were, as a series, not more severe, and not more rapidly fatal. These animal experiments, which add the test of physiological effect to that of the chemical reagents, decisively confirm our analysis; and taking them in connection with the analysis, and with the symptoms observed during life, and with the appearances noted in the body after death, they afford, in our opinion, the most complete proof that the death of Mrs. Dove was from the poisonous effects of the strychnia, and from no other cause.—GEORGE MORLEY; THOMAS NUNNELEY, F.R.C.S.E."

The Coroner called up the prisoner—William Dove, do you wish to say anything in reply to the charge?

Dove—I have nothing at all to say.

The Coroner then said—I fear a very erroneous impression prevails relative to the nature of an inquiry like this. It seems to be thought that this is a court where an accused person is on his trial; that a charge is made, and that there must of necessity be a defence. Now, nothing is more incorrect, or further from the real nature of a coroner's inquest. Our principal duty is to ascertain and inquire into the cause of death; and, in the progress of the investigation, it should appear that it has arisen from violence offered by another, then the law says, you shall find such a verdict as will send the party causing death before another tribunal to answer the charge to be made against him. Your duty, therefore, in this

case, is to determine the cause of the death of Mrs. Dove. If the circumstances attending her death, and the results of the examination of her body after death, satisfy you that she died from poison, it will be for you to say, upon the evidence before you, whether she took it herself to destroy life, or whether it was taken by accident or mistake, or whether it was administered to her designedly by some other person. The Coroner here entered upon a lengthened review of the evidence, which occupied in the delivery above two hours and a half; afterwards the jury returned into court with a verdict to the effect, that Harriet Dove died from the effects of strychnia, wilfully administered by her husband, William Dove. (Sensation.)

The Coroner—That is a verdict of wilful murder against William Dove? Foreman—It is.

The prisoner was then formally committed to take his trial at the next York assizes.

THE RUGELEY POISONING CASES.

At the opening of the Stafford Assizes, last week, Mr. Baron Bramwell, before addressing the grand jury, called for Mr. W. W. Ward, coroner, before whom the inquests in the case of Palmer were conducted, and inquired if he had the depositions against Palmer in his possession. Mr. Ward said he had, and added that a writ of certiorari had been served on him to return them to the Court of Queen's Bench. Mr. Baron Bramwell observed that Mr. Ward had perhaps done right in retaining possession of them, but the indictment was returned to that court. In his address to the grand jury, the Learned Judge remarked with reference to the charge against William Palmer, for the murder of Cook and others, that it would be for them to consider, in the first place, whether there was satisfactory evidence that the deceased was poisoned. The facts were, that the body of Cook being opened, no appearance was found which could account for death in a natural way, without the assistance of something done by art, and the symptoms, it was said, were such as strychnine alone, or some similar poison, could produce. If they should be satisfied that the deceased was poisoned, it would be for them to consider whether the accused was the perpetrator of that deed. They would inquire whether he was a person possessed of sufficient skill to employ such a drug, whether it was in his possession, whether he had, in reference to any matter connected with it, made any statements that were untrue, and whether there appeared any adequate motive for the commission of such a deed; although he was not of opinion that it was necessary to discover what might be thought an adequate motive for the commission of such an offence, since it was impossible, amid the infinity of motives that acted upon men, to say what would be sufficient to induce to the commission of such a crime.

On Friday afternoon, true bills were found against William Palmer for the murder of Cook, and for the murder of Ann Palmer. The bills were ignored in the case of Walter Palmer.

CONVICTION OF THE RUGELEY POSTMASTER.—On the same day, Samuel Cheshire, late postmaster at Rugeley, was indicted for opening a post letter. Mr. Whately stated the facts of the case, which were but a repetition of what has already appeared in the public prints. After considerable deliberation, the jury found Cheshire guilty, with a strong recommendation to mercy. Sentence deferred.

ROBBERY OF THE ROYAL PLATE.—When the Court removes from one place to another, a portion of the Royal plate, amounting to three or four wagon loads, is removed. On the present occasion, the Court was about to leave Buckingham Palace for Windsor; but, owing to the intended sojourn at the latter place being shorter than usual, it was only necessary to remove a small portion of plate—about a dozen chests. On Saturday afternoon, at half-past three, a wagon, belonging to the Royal carrier, left Buckingham Palace for the Paddington Station, loaded with about twelve chests of plate, and between sixty and seventy other packages, under the charge of five men. On their way to the station, they stopped at a public-house in the South Wharf Road, where all went in to have something to drink. By their own statement, they had not left the wagon more than five minutes, when, on their return, they observed that the rope which had confined the wagon-cloth placed over the goods, had been severed. This caused them to suspect something was wrong, and on looking over the wagon, they discovered that a chest of plate, which had been packed in the middle of it and fastened by a new rope to the rail, had been stolen. The wagon was afterwards driven to the Paddington Station, and sent on the truck to Windsor, and arrived at the Castle at seven o'clock, when the Royal carrier, on being informed of the robbery, returned to town with his man, who had had charge of the goods, to institute every possible inquiry into the affair. The two helpers and the driver were subsequently taken into custody, but admitted to bail. The chest which was stolen was considerably lighter than the others, and consequently more easily removed. It contained a quantity of the Royal nursery plate used by the Princes and Princesses.

MORE CHILD MURDERS.—On Monday night information was received at the Scotland Yard Police Station, that two more children had been found murdered. One was a fine, full-grown boy, discovered in the river Ouse, Gate Fulford, wrapped in a piece of dress lining, and covered with brown paper tied round with string. There was attached to it a 7lb. weight, with a strong cord, for the purpose of sinking the body. The other case was that of a newly-born male child, found in a brook near Mill Lane, Creve Town, fully grown, and appeared to have been in the water five or six days, and murdered. The body was quite naked, but a light-coloured muslin skirt was found near the body, in which it is supposed it was wrapped.

THE EMBEZZLEMENT AT THE LICHFIELD BANK.—William Lawton, who for 40 years was clerk at Messrs. Palmer and Greene's bank, Lichfield, has been charged at the Quarter Sessions, with feloniously stealing £7,350 belonging to his employers. The jury returned a verdict of guilty. The defendant, who is 73 years of age, was sentenced to four years' penal servitude.

ASSIZE INTELLIGENCE.

ALICE GRAY.—The charge of perjury against this prisoner came on for trial at Stafford, on the 15th. The court was densely crowded by a number of persons of all ranks, who seemed to take a morbid interest in the case.

It appeared that on the 12th of Oct. last, the prisoner went to the police-station at Wolverhampton, and informed an officer that she had been robbed near to the post-office, by a man and a boy, of a purse containing £3 5s. and a white silk handkerchief. From the description, the police officer thought he recognised two boys named Charles Bandle and John Perry. They were accordingly apprehended, and when placed in the police-yard identified by the prisoner as the persons who had robbed her. They were committed to the sessions at Stafford on the charge, were convicted there, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour. As the prosecutrix in that case (Alice Gray) was leaving the Court for the railway station, the reporter of a newspaper recognised her as the person who, under the name of Agnes Christie, had accused a man at Birmingham of robbing her of a box containing all she had in the world. The accused, however, had been able to prove that he was elsewhere at the time at which she had alleged she had been robbed, and the charge, as against him, failed. The magistrate, however, directed the chief of the police to give her 15s. out of the post box, and he also obtained a free pass for her by rail to Liverpool, en route for Ireland, to which place she said she was going. On being asked by the chief constable of Wolverhampton, she acknowledged that she was the same person, and she was taken up before the magistrate at Wolverhampton, who, after prolonged examinations, which were now strongly animadverted upon by her counsel, committed her for trial for perjury. The bill in that case, it will be remembered, was thrown out by the grand jury at the last Summer Assizes, and she was again indicted at these assizes, both for the perjury at the petty sessions and before the adjourned quarter sessions, upon the latter of which charges she was now put upon her trial.

On behalf of the two boys an alibi was set up, and it was proved that they had been at a village called Tettenhall, about two miles from Wolverhampton, during the whole of the day in question, and had only returned to the town between a quarter to six and half-past six. On behalf of the prisoner, it was suggested that the money of which she said she was robbed at Wolverhampton had been given to her by the Rev. Mr. Morris, who had met her as she was going off by the train, and, after she was seated in a carriage, had taken her from the station, to which she had returned after an interval of two hours. A medical gentleman was called on the part of the prosecution to prove that the Rev. Mr. Morris was now at Clifton and unable to attend at Stafford; but, however, as he could not say that he was so ill as to be unable to travel, the Learned Judge held that his deposition before the magistrate was inadmissible.

The counsel for the prisoner contended, that even if the alibi of the boys was completely made out, it had not been shown, in the absence of Mr. Morris, that she had had no money of which to be robbed, and that it was therefore, at the worst, only a case of mistaken identity. Mr. Baron Bramwell summed up some what strongly against this view of the case, and the jury, after a few minutes' consultation, returned a verdict of Guilty. Sentence deferred. The prisoner was then removed.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

FREDERICK STAPLETON, aged 40, having the appearance of a "fashionably" dressed cabman, but who described himself on the police sheet as a brass-finisher, residing at No. 11, Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn Lane, was brought before the Clerkenwell Police Court, on Monday, charged with having, on the 17th of February, burglariously entered the house of Mr. West, jeweller, and stolen 5 brilliant rings, 80 gold wedding rings, several watches, and a quantity of gold and silver manufactured articles.

Benjamin West was the first witness examined.—He stated that he was a jeweller, and resided at 23, Marchmont Street, Burton Crescent. On the night of Saturday, the 16th ult., about half-past twelve, he left his shop securely fastened up, and all was then quite safe. On the Sunday morning, from information he received from the police, he found that his shop had been robbed of property amounting in value to over £2,000. The back of the house looked into the back of the houses 12 and 13, Chapel Place, Little Cornam Street. At the back of the house was an iron chequer de frise, and near the water-closet a squab or pillow was thrown across it, and a rope had been tied, so as to make an easy ascent. The thief had gone out by the front door.

Other evidence having been given, the Magistrate remanded the prisoner for a week.

A GANG OF COINERS.—William Brown, John Kitchen, George Jackson, George Green, and Louisa Wilton, were brought before the Southwark Police Court, on Saturday last, charged with manufacturing a large quantity of counterfeit half-crowns, shillings, and sixpences; also with having in their possession plaster of Paris moulds, metal, and implements of every description necessary to carry on an extensive business.

Inspector Brennan stated that from directions he received he proceeded at twelve o'clock at noon, with several sergeants of police, to No. 1, Unicorn Court, Kent Street. As soon as they entered the latter, a female put her head out of the second-floor window, and raised an alarm. Two of the sergeants at once rushed into the house, followed by witnesses as quick as he could, and met Jackson and Kitchen running out of a room on the second floor. Witness seized hold of the latter, when Jackson kicked him with great violence in the lower part of the body. The two sergeants were then in the room securing the other prisoners, when Brown jumped over him and Jackson and Kitchen, and came in contact with one of the sergeants who was present, when they both rolled down stairs like two balls. Witness, however, kept hold of the two men, although they resisted him greatly, and inflicted such blows and kicks on his body that he believed some of his ribs were broken. At that time another man rushed out of the second floor room, jumped out of the window, and made his escape. Witness succeeded in dragging Kitchen and Jackson into the room, when they were secured; and the sergeants captured Green and Louisa Wilton. Their conduct then became so outrageous that he was compelled to send to the police station for assistance, as he believed they would have been rescued, as they were completely surrounded by constables and snuffers. After they were so secured, he searched the room, and found more than a hundred and fifty counterfeit pieces, consisting of half-crowns, shillings, and sixpences, all manufactured with a peculiar white metal, having a sound resembling silver when rung on a table. They had evidently just been cast, as they were in an unfinished state. In the same room, they found two plaster of Paris moulds partially broken up, which had recently been used for making half-crowns and shillings. There was also a ladle on the fire, containing fused metal, several files, sand, acids, and every article necessary for making counterfeit coin. The inspector asked his witness for a remand, to enable him to communicate with the solicitor for the Mint as to the further proceedings.

The prisoners, in a violent manner, denied being connected with the counterfeit coin, or the room in which they were found. The Magistrate told them that the inspector had sworn otherwise; therefore they must all be remanded for a week, for the attendance of the Mint solicitor.

A SHAMEFUL ASSAULT.—James Lynch, jobber in Lenden-hall Market, was charged at the Mansion House, on Tuesday with a brutal assault on Jeremiah Lynch, porter in that market.

It appeared from the evidence of the complainant that the prisoner on Monday purchased some fowls for 13s., but charged the person for whom they were bought 14s. for them. Next morning the prisoner and complainant met in the market, when the prisoner used a bominable language to the complainant, in consequence of his having given the information above stated, and struck him a blow on the face with a couple of fowls he had in his hand. After that he caught the complainant round the neck and struck him two severe blows on the right eye, which completely closed it. Two salesmen of the market, who witnessed the assault, gave the complainant an excellent character, and said they had never beheld anything more brutal or more unprovoked than the attack made by the defendant, a young and powerful man, upon the poor old fellow, whom they had long known as a most civil and hard-working labourer in the market. He appeared to be suffering much pain from the effects of the blows.

Mr. Alderman Carter, who sat for the Lord Mayor, said he considered the prisoner a desperate character, and, to the great gratification of those present, fined him £5, or two months' imprisonment. He ordered half-a-crown to be given to the complainant from the poor-box.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

SINCE we last wrote, the business doing in the consols market has been tolerably extensive, and prices have further advanced nearly one per cent. The forthcoming account will be a most "bullish" affair, as the difference between consols for money and time has been as much as 3 per cent. The 3 per cent. for transfer have realised 92½; and for the account, 92½. Exchequer bills have risen 1s. dis. to 1s. prem; exchequer bonds, 93½; Consols scrip has realised 94; and exchequer scrip 94½ prem.

The imports of bullion have been trifling; but large quantities are expected to arrive shortly, both from Australia and the United States. For shipment to France, the demand is less active, and small parcels of both gold and silver continue to reach us from the Continent.

The foreign house has been tolerably firm; but the actual business doing in it has been very moderate. Buenos Ayres have realised 58½; Ecuador New Consolidated, 14½; Grenada 21½; Mexican, 20½; Peruvian, 9½; Russian 5 per cent, 104; Russian 4½ per cent, 93; Sardinian, 92; Spanish 3 per cent, 44½; the new deferred, 25½; Passive, 7½; the composites' certificates, 64; Turkish 6 per cent, 98½; the 4 per cent, 100½; Dutch 4 per cent, 95½.

Joint-stock Bank shares have sold steadily, as follows:—Australia, 98; Bank of London, 65; Chartered of Asia, 5; City, 64; Colonial, 20; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 16½; London and County, 34; London Joint-stock, 29; Oriental, 43; Provincial of Ireland, 52½; South Australian, 40.

Miscellaneous securities have been tolerably firm. Berlin waterworks have realised 61; Canada Company's Bonds, 147; ditto Government 6 per cent, 108½; Crystal Palace, 28; ditto Preference, 51; Electric Telegraph, 20½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 16½; Scottish Australian Investment, 14½; South Australian Land, 55½; Van Dieman's Land, 14½.

Most railway shares have produced rather more money, with a firm market. Aberdeen have realised 27; Bristol and Exeter, 89; Caledonian, 60½; Chester and Holyhead, 14; East Anglian, 14; Eastern Counties, 9½; East Lancashire, 71; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 59½; Great Northern, 92½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 106; Great Western, 61; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 84; London and Brighton, 101; London and North Western, 100½; London and South Western, 94; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 26½; Midland, 74; North British, 31½; North Eastern—Ber-

wick, 77½; ditto Leeds, 15½; ditto York, 56½; North Staffordshire, 118; Oxford, Worcester, and Wykehampton, 27½; South Devon, 13½; South Eastern, 69; Vale of Neath, 19½.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—A very moderate supply of English wheat has been received fresh up to our market this week, consisting of and by land carriage. For all kinds we have had a steady trade, at an advance in the quotations of 5s. per quarter. There has been an improved feeling in the demand for foreign wheat, the value of which has risen fully 2s. per quarter. We have had a good inquiry for barley and malt, at 1s. per quarter more money. The oat trade has been steady, and in some instances the quotations have had an upward tendency. Beans and peas have been in request, at very full prices. The flour trade has ruled active, and the quotations have improved 3s. to 4s. per sack.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Essex and Kent White Wheat, 60s. to 65s.; do. Red, 58s. to 75s.; Malting Barley, 36s. to 42s.; Distilling do., 32s. to 35s.; Grinding do., 31s. to 39s.; Malt, 56s. to 74s.; Rye, 44s. to 47s.; Feed Oats, 21s. to 27s.; Potato do., 24s. to 30s.; Tuck Beans, 31s. to 34s.; Pigeon, 37s. to 44s.; White Peas, 40s. to 44s.; Maple, 32s. to 35s.; Gray, 32s. to 36s. per quarter. Town made Flour, 63s. to 65s.; Town Households, 54s. to 60s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, 60s. to 62s. per 250lbs.

CATTLE.—Our market has been fairly supplied with beasts, which have sold slowly, at about last week's currency. Sheep, the supplies of which have not been so extensive, have been in fair request, at about stationary prices. Lambs have realised 7s. 4d. to 8s. per 8lbs. The veal trade has ruled brisk, at 4d. per 8lbs. more money. In pigs, very little has been doing. Beef from 3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; Mutton, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; Lamb, 7s. 4d. to 8s.; Veal, 4s. 6d. to 6s.; Pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. per 8lbs. to sink the offal.

NEWCASTLE AND LEADENHALL.—These markets have been tolerably well supplied with each kind of meat, which has sold slowly, as follows:—Beef, from 2s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; mutton, 2s. to 4s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 4d.; pork, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d. per 8lbs. by the carcass.

TEA.—Our market is in a most inactive state, and last week's prices are barely supported.—Congou, 8½d. to 2s. 6d.; Ning Yung and Oolong, 10d. to 1s. 9d.; Sonchong, 9d. to 2s. 8d.; Flowery Pekoe, 1s. 5d. to 3s. 6d.; Caper, 1s. to 1s. 3d.; Scented Caper, 1s. to 1s. 8d.; Orange Pekoe, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d.; Scented Orange Pekoe, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 9d.; Twankay, 8d. to 1s. 2d.; Hyson Skin, 7d. to 1s.; Hyson, 1s. 5d. to 3s. 9d.; Young Hyson, 9d. to 1s.; Imperial, 1s. to 2s. 6d.; Gunpowder, 1s. to 3s. 6d.; Assam, 1s. to 4s. 4d. per lb.

SUGAR.—Grocers almost generally appear to be short of stock and most raw sugars are in fair request, at very full prices. The stock is still tolerably extensive. Refined sugars are steady, at 49s. to 53s. per cwt. English crushed has realised 32s.

MOLASSES.—The demand is somewhat firmer, at 18s. per cwt. for West India.

COFFEE.—Good ord. native Ceylon has changed hands, at 51s. per cwt. In all other kinds of coffee, very little business is doing.

COCOA.—Our market is heavy, and prices are still drooping. Red Trinidad, 41s. to 49s.; gray, 41s. to 44s.; Grenada, 49s. to 46s.; St. Vincent, 36s. to 40s.; Bahia, 37s. to 40s. per cwt.

FRUIT.—Valencia raisins are selling at 35s. to 44s.; Turkey figs, 36s. to 50s.; Jordan almonds, 120s. to 180s. per cwt.

RICE.—Last week's advance in the quotations is fully supported; but the business doing is by no means extensive. The quantity on offer is unusually large.

SALTPETRE.—East India qualities are steady, and fine Bengal is worth 35s. per cwt. Business is reported for arrival at 34s. 6d. The stock is now 4,679 tons, against 10,980 tons in 1855; 3,503 tons in 1854; and 2,955 tons in 1853.

NITRATE OF SODA.—Our market is heavy, and the quotations have a downward tendency. About forty tons have changed hands at 17s. 9d. to 18s. per cwt.

PROVISIONS.—Fine butters are in request, and selling at very full prices. Inferior kinds command previous rates. We are but moderately supplied with bacon, in which a full average business is doing, at extreme quotations.

WOOL.—The imports of wool continue on a very limited scale, and the demand for all kinds is rather active, at 3d. the late improvement in value. English Down tegs, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4½d.; Down ewes, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3½d.; half-bred hoggets, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb.

HEMP AND FLAX.—We have had a dull sale for all kinds of hemp, and prices generally are in favour of buyers. In flax very little is doing, and the quotations have a downward tendency.

COTTON.—There is less inquiry for this article. However, imports are firm, and last week's currency is supported.

INDIGO.—Several parcels have changed hands at 2d. to 3d. per lb. above the rates realised at the last public sales.

SPIRITS.—There is a moderate demand for rum, proof Leewards at 2s. 1d. to 2s. 3d.; East India, 1s. 10d. to 2s. per gallon. Brandy is held at full quotations. Cognac, best brands of 1851, 10s. 4d. to 10s. 6d.; 1850 ditto, 10s. 5d. to 10s. 7d.; older, 10s. 10d. to 11s. 6d.; and low to middling, 6s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per gallon. Gin, 17 under proof, 9s. 10d.; 22 ditto, 9s. 4d.; and raw spirit, 10s. 5d. per gallon.

METALS.—Scotch pig iron continues to fluctuate in price. Rails, at the works, are worth £8 to £8 5s.; common bars, £8 2s. 6d. to £8 5s.; Staffordshire, £10 per ton. Tin is inactive. Banca, 129s. to 129s. 6d.; Straits, 127s. to 128s.; British, 128s. to 129s. Tin plates are quite as dear as last week. I. C. coke, 30s. to 30s. 6d.; I. X. ditto, 36s. to 36s. 6d. per box. Lead is in good request. British pig, £26 10s. to £27; Spanish, £25 to £25 10s.; milled steel, £27 to £27 10s. per ton. Spelter, on the spot, £23 7s. 6d. to £23 10s. per ton. English Zinc, £30 10s. to £31.

OILS.—Lined oil moves off slowly, at 34s. per cwt. on the spot. Pale seal is worth £55 to £55 10s.; southern, £44 to £48; refined rape, £53 10s. to £54; brown, £49 to £49 10s. Cocoa-nut is quoted at 38s. to 39s. 6d.; and palm, 37s. to 40s. per cwt. Turpentine is rather firmer. English spirits, 33s. to 33s. 6d.; American ditto, 34s. to 34s. 6d.; and rough, 9s. 6d. to 10s. per cwt.

TALLOW.—P.Y.C., on the spot, has sold at 55s. 6d.; and for the last three months, 50s. 6d. per cwt. Town tallow, 50s. 6d. nett cash; rough fat, 2s. 10s. per 8lbs. The stock of tallow is now 22,652 casks, against 35,532 in 1855, and 35,483 in 1854.

COALS.—Best sorts, 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.; other kinds, 16s. to 17s. per ton.

LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14.

BANKRUPTS.—JAMES MICHE, Slenford House, Battersea Fields, Surrey, machinist—WILLIAM STEVENSON, Leicester, butcher—CHARLES CANNON, Love Lane, Eastcheap, meat salesman—ISAAC BARKER, Scarborough, draper—GEORGE BUSH, Fenchurch Street, merchant—THOMAS PREEN, Ludlow, builder—EDWIN PEE, Chelsea, timber merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—WILLIAM SMITH, Edinburgh, builder—HECTOR AITCHISON, Lauder, merchant—JAMES ORR and COMPANY, Crofthead of Niddston, Renfrewshire—JAMES HADDIN, Glasgow, writer, deceased.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18.

BANKRUPTS.—ANN SOPHIA POLE, Great Suffolk Street, Southwark, pawnbroker—CHARLES FORD, late of 5, Great Marlborough Street, tailor—JOHN ALLIN JONES, Birmingham, tailor and draper—FREDERICK COOK, Oldham, machine maker—CHARLES BOWEN, Cullum Street, City, tailor—MORTON MUIR and JOHN WHITCOMB, Kidderminster, carpet manufacturers—PETER JACKSON, Deansgate, Manchester, druggist—LIVIAN BENSON PEARSE, York Road, King's Cross, Middlesex, lime and cement merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Dunbar, Latheron, Cuthbertshire, farmer—GEORGE MAC-

FAIRLANE, junr., Glasgow, commission agent—HUGH DIVINE and Co., Glasgow, potters—DUGALD M'PHAIL and Co., Glasgow, cotton spinners—JOHN WATSON, Edinburgh, butcher—MACINTYRE and MACKAY, Glasgow, wholesale stationers.

WATCH MANUFACTORY, 33, Ludgate Hill, London. Established 1749. J. W. BENSON, manufacturer of Gold and Silver WATCHES of every description, construction, and pattern, from Two to Sixty Guineas each. A new pamphlet of sketches and prices sent free on application. A Two Years' Warranty given with every Watch, and sent, carriage paid, to Scotland, Ireland, Wales, or any part of the Kingdom, upon receipt of Post Office or Bankers' Order. Gold, Silver, and Old Watches taken in Exchange.

SILVER WATCHES, £2 2s., £2 15s., to £5. Highly-finished, Horizontal Movements, Jewelled in Four Holes, with all the recent improvements. Sound and accurate Time-keepers. J. W. BENSON, 33, Ludgate Hill.

SILVER WATCHES £3 10s., £5 5s., to £15 15s. Patent Detached English Lever Movements, Jewelled, &c. Strong Double-Backed Cases. J. W. BENSON, 33, Ludgate Hill.

GOLD WATCHES £3 15s., £5 5s., to £15 15s. Highly-finished Movements, Jewelled, with all the recent improvements. Engraved or Engine-Turned Cases. Warranted to keep accurate Time. J. W. BENSON, 33, Ludgate Hill.

GOLD WATCHES, £6 6s., £8 8s., to £15 15s. Each, Highly-finished, Patent Detached Lever Movements, Jewelled, Richly Engraved or Engine-Turned Cases. J. W. BENSON, 33, Ludgate Hill.

GOLD WATCHES, Patent Detached Lever Movements. London-Made, First-Class Watches, 10, 12, 15, to 60 Guineas each. J. W. BENSON, 33, Ludgate Hill.

LESSONS IN MILLINERY AND DRESS-MAKING. Twelve for 8s. 6d., by Mrs. SNELLING, 10, Stafford Street, Old Bond Street, who continues her Double Course of Lessons with style and correctness. Patterns given.—Improvers wanted.

THE FORTY-SEVEN SHILLING SUITS, made to order, from Scotch Heather and Cheviot Tweeds, all wool and thoroughly shrunken, by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent Street.

THE FELLISIER OVERCOATS, 21s. and 28s., adapted for the season; the TWO GUINIA DRESS or FROCK COATS; the GUINIA DRESS TROUSERS; and the HALF-GUINIA WAISTCOATS. N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

SISAL CIGARS at Goodrich's Cigar, Tobacco, and Snuff Stores (established 1780), 407, Oxford Street, near Soho Square. 14 in a box, 1s. 9d.; post free, 27 stamps. None are genuine unless signed "H. N. Goodrich."

BORDEAUX BRANDY, Pale or Brown, equal to the finest Cognac brands. One Dozen Cases as imported, at 45s., delivered free to all the railway stations, on receipt of Post-office Order, or other remittance, payable at the Fimlico Post Office, to the Consignees, W.J. HOLLEBROEK & SON, Wine and Spirit Importers, Halkin Wharf, Fimlico.

WAR TAX SAVED.—The EAST INDIA TEA COMPANY still supply 7 lbs. of excellent Congou or Souchow for One Guinea, war-tax included, and other sorts, either black or green, as low as 2s. 6d. per lb. Office, 9, Great St. Helen's Churchyard, Bishopsgate.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST TEAS IN ENGLAND are sold by PHILLIPS and COMPANY, Tea Merchants, 8, King William Street, City, London. A general Price Current is published every month, containing all the advantages of the London Markets, and is sent free by Post on application. Sugars are supplied at Market Prices.

ROBINSON'S PATENT GROATS, for more than 30 years have been held in constant and increasing public estimation as the purest farinæ of the oat, and as the best and most valuable preparation for making a pure and delicious GRUEL, which forms a light and nutritious supper for the aged, is a popular recipe for colds and influenza, is of general use in the sick chamber, and alternately with the Patent Barley, is an excellent food for infants and children.

Prepared only by the patentees, ROBINSON, BELLVILLE, and Co., Purveyors to the Queen, 61, Red Lion Street, Holborn, London.

Sold by all respectable Grocers, Druggists, and others in town and country, in packets of 6d. and 1s.; and family canisters, at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each.

CURES (without physic) of CONSTIPATION indigestion (dyspepsia), flatulency, phlegm, all nervous, bilious, and liver complaints, dysentery, diarrhoea, acidity, palpitation, heartburn, headaches, debility, despondency, cramps, spasms, nausea, and sickness at the stomach, sinking fits, cough, asthma, bronchitis, consumption, also children's complaints, by Dr. BARRY'S delicious REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD, which restores health without purging, inconvenience, or expense, as it saves 50 times its cost in other remedies. Recommended by Drs. E. H. Shoreland, Harvey, Campbell, Gattiker, Wurzer, Ingram, and 50,000 other respectable persons, whose health has been perfectly restored by it, after all other means of cure had failed. In canisters, 1lb., 2s. 9d.; 2lb., 4s. 6d.; 5lb., 11s.; 12lb., 22s.; the 12lb. carriage free, on receipt of post-office order.—BARRY DR. BARRY and Co., 77, Regent Street, London; FORTNUM, MASON, and Co., 182, Piccadilly; ABBIS and Co., 60, Gracechurch Street.

COD LIVER OIL, LIGHT BROWN AND PALE NEWFOUNDLAND.—The above Oils may be had pure, sweet, and genuine, of JAMES SLIPPER, Wholesale and Export Druggist, 87, Leather Lane, and 14 and 15, Dorington Street, Holborn. Light Brown, from Norway, 1s. 6d. per pint, 2s. 6d. per quart; Pale Newfoundland, 2s. per pint, 3s. 6d. per quart.

DR. DE JONGH'S

LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL. Prescribed with complete confidence and great success by the Faculty for its purity, efficacy, and marked superiority over all kinds in the treatment of CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, AND ALL SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

Opinion of A. B. GRANVILLE, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., author of "The Spas of Germany," "The Spas of England," "On Sudden Death," &c. &c. &c.

"Dr. Granville has used Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil extensively in his practice, and has found it not only efficacious but uniform in its quality. He believes it to be preferable in many respects to Oils sold without the guarantee of such an authority as Dr. de Jongh. Dr. GRANVILLE HAS FOUND THAT THIS PARTICULAR KIND PRODUCES THE DESIRED EFFECT IN A SHORTER TIME THAN OTHERS, AND THAT IT DOES NOT CAUSE THE NAUSEA AND INDIGESTION TOO OFTEN CONSEQUENT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PALE NEWFOUNDLAND OILS. The Oil being moreover, much more palatable, Dr. Granville's patients have themselves expressed a preference for Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Oil."

Sold ONLY in bottles, capsuled and labelled with Dr. de Jongh's Stamp and Signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by ANSAR, HARFORD, & CO., 77, STRAND, London. Dr. de Jongh's sole Consignees, and sent by them to all parts of town; IN THE COUNTRY, by many respectable Chemists.

Half-pints (10 ounces), 2s. 6d.; Pints (20 ounces), 4s. 9d.; Quarts (40 ounces), 9s., IMPERIAL MEASURE.

GREEN PEAS (JULIENNE) for SOUPS, and all kinds of Vegetables. To be had through all respectable grocers and Italian warehousemen. Wholesale at CHOLLET and Co's depot, St. Baloagat Street, W. & A.

MICROSCOPES.—J. AMADIO'S BOTANICAL MICROSCOPES, packed in mahogany cases, with three Powers, Condenser, Finers, and two Slides, will show the Animalcule in water. Price 18s. 6d. Address, JOSEPH AMADIO, 7, Turgotmorton Street. A large assortment of Achromatic Microscopes.

SMART'S WRITING INSTITUTION, 5, Piccadilly, between the Haymarket and Regent Circus.—Open from Ten till Nine daily. Persons of all ages received (privately) and taught at any time, suiting their own convenience. Lessons one hour each. No classes, no extras. Improvement guaranteed in eight to twelve lessons. Separate rooms for Ladies, to which department (if preferred) Mrs. Smart will attend.—Apply to Mr. Smart, as above.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 4, Coventry Street, Leicester Square, (for gentlemen only) from ten till ten, containing 1,000 models and preparations, illustrating every part of the Human Frame in health and disease, the Races of Men, &c. Lectures at twelve, two, and four, morning, and at half-past seven evening, by Dr. Sexton; and at half-past eight, by Dr. Kahn. Admission, 1s.

EMPLOYMENT.—Persons in search of employment, either as a source of income, or to fill up leisure hours, may hear of such, by return of post, by which three pounds weekly may be realised, in town or country, and by either sex, station in life immaterial, by enclosing three stamps, with directed stamped envelope, to Mr. HENRY JOHNSON, 20, North Street, Cambridge Heath, Hackney, London.

THE NIGHTINGALE VARSOVIANA, by J. HARROWAY, as played by Adams's celebrated band, and the Strauss Varsoviana, the two for Sixpence, Nos. 801-2 of "Davidson's Musical Treasury," with elegant colour engraving of the Dance, and directions for dancing it. 19, Peter's Hill, St. Paul's. No extra for posting.

RECOLLECTIONS OF PRINCE CHARLIE, for the Pianoforte. By BRINLEY RICHARDS, No. 1. Who wadna fecht for Charlie? No. 2. Charlie is my darling. No. 3. Over the water to Charlie. No. 4. Bonnie Dundee. These elegant pianoforte pieces, by the above talented composer, are now published, price 2s. 6d. each, postage free. HAMMOND, 9, New Bond Street.

DRAWING-ROOM COMIC SONGS.—Aladdin, or the Wonderful Lamp, price 6d. The Forty Thieves, 6d. Alonzo the Brave, 6d. La Sonnambula, 6d. Macbeth, 6d. Richard III., 6d. Hamlet, 6d. The Cork Leg, Steam Arm, Ben Battle, and Ben the Carpenter, the four for 3d. All with Pianoforte Accompaniments, in "Davidson's Musical Treasury," beautifully embellished in Colours. 19, Peter's Hill, St. Paul's, and all Booksellers.

IF you wish to be happy and well, purchase the GUIDE TO HEALTH AND HAPPINESS, price Sixpence, Post free for Seven Stamps. HOULSTON and STONEMAN, 65, Paternoster Row, and all Booksellers.

CATECHISM OF SHORT-HAND.—Insures a thorough insight into this valuable art, with half the usual labour. Is the only work on the viva-voce plan. For self-tuition, clear, concise. By an experienced Short-hand Writer and Editor. "Clever and valuable book."—Weston Gazette. Sent free, for 18 stamps. Address, Author of Short-hand Catechism, Victoria Park, Bristol.

SOCIAL FRAUDS.—See FAMILY FRIEND, 2d. Monthly. Sold everywhere.

TALES OF THE POISONERS.—See the FAMILY FRIEND, Price 2d. Monthly. WARD & LOCK, 158, Fleet Street.

DR. LETHBY on the MISCHIEVOUS EFFECTS OF QUACK MEDICINES.—See the FAMILY FRIEND, 2d. Monthly. Sold everywhere.

Second Thousand, price Threepence (or Post Free, 4d.).

No. I. of **A MANUAL OF BRITISH BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS.** By H. T. STANTON, Editor of the "Entomologist's Annual."

To be completed in about Thirty Monthly Numbers. The first four parts will comprise the whole of the Butterflies. "The whole of the species are given; the descriptions are both scientific and easily comprehended, and the figures are numerous and well executed."—Hastings News. London: JOHN VAN VOORST, 1, Paternoster Row, and to be had of all Booksellers and News Agents.

Price half-a-crown, neatly bound, **THE FOURTH VOLUME OF THE ENGLISH WOMAN'S DOMESTIC MAGAZINE** is just ready at every bookseller's in the empire. The contents of this volume of the "Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine"—eight hundred columns, with more than one hundred illustrations by Birket Foster, John Gilbert, M. E. Dear, E. Morin, and Julian Portelli—are Biographical Sketches of Augustina Saragossa, Baroness von der Weir, Beatrice Cenci, Charlotte Corday, Countess of Montfort, Elizabeth Fry, Joan of Arc, Sydney Smith, and Madame de Maintenon, the Wife of Scarron. Tales: Kavanagh, by Longfellow, illustrated by Birket Foster—Grace Hetherleigh, illustrated by M. E. Dear.—The Tale of the Opera of the Huguenots—Alice Edlestone—Aunt Dolly's History—The Birthday Present—Captain Ian Evers—Charlotte May—The Circassian Cousin Emily—A Domestic Tragedy—A Leaf from the Life of an Author—Love and Duty—Magdalen—The Mistaken Heart—The Nun about Town—The Physician's Secret—Pretty Kate Cowley—Romance of Cyprus—The Scarf and Cross—She—Three Leaves—The Young Tartan—Miscellaneous Articles about Gloves—Account of a Certain Party—Anecdotes of Cookery—A Bachelor on Vulgar People—A Bad Case—Bull-dog on the Sea Serpent—Buried Alive—A Churchyard Revivier—A Curiosity—Dickens's Apology—Domestic Show Rooms—French Housekeeping—French Newspaper Stories—Fudge Papers: 1. The Bachelor's Wife Providing Society; 2. Little Weaknesses—The Garret Goethe, and his Dancing Master's Daughters—The Gurnhill Mother—History in Needlework—The Homestead—A Jewish Wedding in the East—Lectures to Ladies—Life of a Turkish Gentleman—Little Flee—Lord of Burleigh—Mental Medicine—Management of Infants—Marriage in the East—Old Times and New—Our Folks—The Palaces of France: Versailles, Palais des Therins, the Louvre, Malmaison, and the Tuileries—Ports of the Absurd—Privy Purse Expenses of Charles II.—The Protected Female—The Rights of Children—Sunday in Summer—Time Indicted—Toilette of a Roman Lady—Three of Ten Thousand Images—A Tumble in the

Just Ready, Crown 8vo, 2s. 6d., Beautifully Illustrated, BECHSTEIN'S HAND BOOK OF CAGE BIRDS. Edited by H. G. ADAMS, Esq.

Just Ready, Profusely Illustrated, Gilt Sides and Edges, 3s. 6d. ELEGANT ARTS FOR LADIES, containing Plain Instructions and Directions by the best Masters and Professors in every useful Art and graceful Accomplishment.

THE WIFE'S OWN BOOK OF COOKERY, By FREDERICK BISHOP, late Cuisinier to St. James's Palace, the Marquis of Stafford, Baron Rothschild, Earl Norbury, and many of the First Families in the Kingdom. London: WARD and LOCK, 158, Fleet Street.

Just out, price 2s. 6d., Frontispiece by Dalziel, THE FAMILY FRIEND. "It is the very thing we want after the curtains are drawn and the candles are lit for a long pleasant evening."—Bradford Observer.

ELEGANT ILLUSTRATED GIFT-BOOK. 8s. 6d. richly gilt.
TREASURES IN NEEDLEWORK. "We cordially recommend this volume."—Morning Post. "Marvellously cheap."—Illustrated Times, Feb. 16, 1856. SHOULD BE IN EVERY HOME. Price 2s. 6d.

THE PRACTICAL HOUSEWIFE; the best Book for Matron, Maid, Emigrant, or Colonist. "This is a capital handbook."—Athenaeum, Dec. 29, 1855. London: WARD and LOCK, 158, Fleet Street.

MRS. WARREN'S BOOKS, 6d. each. THE UNIQUE ANTI-MACASSAR BOOK. A new edition, free from errors.—The Irish Point Collar Book. The 4th series. S. W. Edgings.—Fotichomanie, with engravings and instructions, by which no failure can arise.—London: SIMPKIN and Co., Booksellers, and Berlin Houses.

A CHILD'S BOOK, long wanted for the very young. DESSIE'S AND JESSIE'S FIRST BOOK. Price 2s. 6d. Size folio cap., with Coloured Illustrations, and the stories in words of not more than three letters, and in large type. The aim of this book is to interest children from the very first in their reading, by indulging them in their natural love for a tale.

DEAN and SON, 31, Ludgate Hill, Juvenile Book and Print Publishers and Bible Warehouse.

Price Sixpence each, post free.—Sold everywhere. BLUNDERS IN BEHAVIOUR CORRECTED. "It will polish and refine either sex."—Home Companion.

FRENCH IN A FORTNIGHT, WITHOUT A MASTER. "Will accomplish more than it professes."—Illustrated Magazine.

CLARKE'S GUIDES TO LONDON ARE THE BEST. LONDON: What to See and How to See It. A Hand-book Guide for Visitors, with 80 Engravings. 18mo, cloth, price 1s.; with Map, 1s. 6d.; post free for two stamps.—London: H. G. CLARKE and Co., 252, Strand.

Thirteenth Edition, 8vo, bound, price 16s., post free. HOMOEOPATHIC DOMESTIC MEDICINE. By J. LAURIE, M.D. Devoid of technicality. No medicine is prescribed without the indications for its selection, and the exact dose to be administered. An excellent work for families, emigrants, and missionaries. A Medicine Chest for this work, price 55s. An Epitome of the above, price 5s. A Guide to those commencing this treatment in family practice. A case for this work, price 25s. Carriage free on receipt of post-office order.

JAMES LEATH, 5, St. Paul's Churchyard, and 9, Vere Street, Oxford Street.

Just published, price 4d., post free. COD LIVER OIL. Its medical use, kinds, and varieties. Adulterated and spurious compounds. With numerous Cases successfully treated by the most eminent Foreign and British Medical Practitioners.

Price 6d. post free. PAINLESS TOOTH EXTRACTION, remarks on (without chloroform). By J. WHITEMAN WEBB, L.S.A., Surgeon-Dentist, 21, Southampton Street, Bloomsbury Square. Operations daily from 10 to 4.

SPECTACLES: When to Wear and How to Use Them. Addressed to those who value their sight. By CHARLES A. LONG. Published by BLAND and LONG, Opticians, 153, Fleet Street, London. Sent free by post for six postage stamps.

ROBERT COCKS and CO.'S HAND-BOOK OF GLEES. 118 Numbers, each 2d.
ROBERT COCKS and CO.'S STANDARD ENGLISH SONGS. 18 Books, 4d. each.
ROBERT COCKS and CO.'S CHORISTERS' HAND-BOOK. A Collection of Short Anthems, &c. 80 Numbers, each 2d. and 4d.
ROBERT COCKS and CO.'S CHANTERS' HAND-BOOK. 373 Cathedral Chants, with the whole Psalter pointed, 5s.
London: 6, New Burlington Street, and of all Booksellers.

MISS POOLE'S NEW and POPULAR SONG—MAY GUARDIAN ANGELS HOVER NEAR THEE, composed for her by FRANK ROMER, which is so enthusiastically received at all the concerts, is published at Durr and Hodgson's, 65, Oxford Street, and may be had at every music-seller's in the United Kingdom.

ONE HUNDRED OF HENRY RUSSELL'S SONGS for 1s., post free 14 stamps (words and music), with all Mr. Russell's new copyright songs, handsomely illustrated wrapper, including "Cheer, Boys, Cheer," "Far upon the Sea," "Long parted have we been," "Rouse, Brothers, Rouse," "Sunshine after Rain," "To the West," "Old Arm Chair," "Gambler's Wife," "Pull away cheerily," &c.—Published at the office of the "Musical Bouquet," 192, High Holborn.

THE SILVER-LAKE VARSOVIANA, by W. H. MONTGOMERY (Composer of the "Lamp-lighter Scottish," &c.) in Nos. 910 and 911 of the MUSICAL BOUQUET, price 6d.; post free, 7 stamps. "The most charming of all Varsovias."—Vide Review. Also, the original and new Varsovias for 3d., in No. 701, and the "Firely Varsovia," by Jules Normann, in No. 931, 3d. (both Nos. post free, 7 stamps).—MUSICAL BOUQUET OFFICE, 192, High Holborn.

TOLKIEN'S 25-GUINEA ROYAL MINUTO PIANOFORTE, compass 64 octaves.—H. T., the original maker of a 25-guinea pianoforte, has, by the care he has devoted to all branches of the manufacture, obtained the highest reputation throughout the universe for his instruments, unequalled in durability and delicacy of touch, more especially for their excellence in standing in tune in the various climates of our colonies. In elegant walnut, rosewood, and mahogany cases. H. Tolkien's manufactory, 27 to 29, King William Street, London Bridge.

MUSICAL BOXES by the celebrated Nicole Freres. An Immense Stock, playing Operatic, National, and Sacred Music, at WALES and McCULLOCH'S, 32, Ludgate Street, near St. Paul's. Largest sizes, four airs, £4; six, £6 6s.; eight airs, £8; twelve airs, £12 12s. Snuff Boxes, two airs, 14s. 6d. and 18s.; three airs, 30s.; four airs, 40s. Catalogue of Tunes and Prices gratis, and post free on application.

JULLIEN and CO.'S CORNET-à-PISTONS. Approved and tried by HERR KENIG.
No. 1.—The Drawing-room Cornet-à-Pistons (by Court-tois), used by Herr Kenig. £8 8 0
2.—The Concert-room Cornet-à-Pistons (by Court-tois), used by Herr Kenig at M. Jullien's Concert. 8 8 0
3.—The Military Cornet-à-Pistons. 6 6 0
4.—The Amateur Cornet-à-Pistons. 5 5 0
5.—The Ordinary Cornet-à-Pistons (First quality). 3 3 0
6.—The Ordinary Cornet-à-Pistons (Second quality). 2 2 0
List of Prices, with Drawings of the Instruments, may be had on application.—JULLIEN and Co., 214, Regent Street.

JULLIEN and CO.'S MUSICAL PRESENTATION and CIRCULATING LIBRARY combined. Subscribers to this library are presented with £3 3s. worth of music every year. Prospectuses forwarded on application to JULLIEN and Co., 214, Regent Street.

KENIG'S RATAPLAN POLKA, performed with the greatest success at M. Jullien's Concerts. Price, with cornet part, 2s., postage free. JULLIEN and Co., 214, Regent Street.

KENIG'S CHATTERBOX POLKA. Illustrated in Colours by Brandard with a scene from Miss F. Horton's Popular Entertainment. Price 3s., postage free. JULLIEN and Co., 214, Regent Street.

KENIG'S LA BLONDE WALTZ, just published, illustrated in colours by Brandard, price 3s., postage free.—JULLIEN and Co., 214, Regent Street.

KENIG'S VICTORY WALTZ, just published, illustrated in colours by Brandard, price 3s., postage free.—JULLIEN and Co., 214, Regent Street.

KENIG'S ZERLINA WALTZ, just published. "A very pretty waltz, equal to any of Herr Kenig's popular productions." Price 3s., postage free.—JULLIEN and Co., 214, Regent Street.

KENIG'S LA GALETTE WALTZ, just published, price 3s., postage free.—JULLIEN and Co., 214, Regent Street.

DOLBY has your CREST ready STAMPED on NOTE PAPER and ENVELOPES, at the price of plain paper. He keeps in stock paper and envelopes stamped with the crests of more than 10,000 families. Wedding cards and superb enamel envelopes, in the present fashion. DOLBY, Heraldic and Wedding Stationer, 56, Regent Street.

NO CHARGE for STAMPING PAPER and ENVELOPES with Arms, Coronet, Crest, or Initials.—RODRIGUES' Cream-laid Adhesive Envelopes, 4d. per 100; Cream-laid Note, full size, five quires for 6d.; Thick ditto, five quires for 1s.; Foolscap, 9s. per ream; Sermon Paper 4s. 6d. Observe at HENRY RODRIGUES', 21, Piccadilly.

WEDDING-CARDS. Enamelled Envelopes, stamped in silver, with Arms, Crest, or Flowers; "At Homes" and Breakfast Invitations in splendid variety, and in the latest fashion. Card-plate engraved, and 100 superfine cards printed, for 4s. 6d.—At H. RODRIGUES', 21, Piccadilly.

A REALLY GOOD STEEL PEN, adapting itself to any hand, very durable, will not corrode, and as flexible as the quill. Price only 1s. 3d. per box of 12 dozen, or Post free, for 1s. 9d., stamps. Sold only by the Makers, PARTRIDGE and COZENS, No. 1, Chancery Lane (corner of Fleet Street). Stationery 30 per cent. lower than any other House. Price Lists Post free. The Trade supplied.

CHUBB'S LOCKS.—Fire-proof Safes, Cash and Deed Boxes. Complete lists of sizes and prices may be had on application. CHUBB and SON, 57, St. Paul's Churchyard, London; 28, Lord Street, Liverpool; 16, Market Street, Manchester; and Wolverhampton.

NOTICE TO INVENTORS.—Office for Patents of Invention, 4, Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross.—The "Circular of Information" may be had gratis, as to the reduced expense and facility of protection for inventions under the new Patent Law for the United Kingdom or foreign countries; and every information, as to all patents granted from 1617 to the present time, by applying personally or by letter to Messrs. PRINCE and Co., Patent Office, 4, Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross.

MODELLING IN LEATHER.—See to what perfection this Art is brought, by an inspection of the Specimens at the Soho Bazaar entrance, and at the Manufactory, 13, Soho Square. "Plain Directions" by ROSE GIBBERT; forwarded for 13 stamps. Amateurs supplied with PROPER materials.

PAPER HANGINGS.—The Cheapest House in London for every known style of Paper Hangings, is Cross's Wholesale Warehouse, 22, Great Portland Street, Oxford Street, where the Public and the Trade are supplied from the largest and most extensive assortment in the Kingdom. Commencing at 12 yards for 6d.

FIRST-CLASS DRAWING, DINING, and BED-ROOM FURNITURE of the choicest materials, in the best taste, at prices charged by many houses for inferior goods. Estimates free. C. NOSOTTI, 398 and 399, Oxford Street, London.

LOOKING GLASSES of every description, of the best quality, at the lowest possible prices. C. NOSOTTI, 398 and 399, Oxford Street, London (Established 1822), has the most extensive assortment of the above always ready for delivery. Designs on receipt of Six Stamps. Regaliding in all its branches.

GLASS LUSTRES for Gas and Candles, Gas Chandeliers, Hall Lanterns, &c. Every article marked with plain figures. HULSTRA and Co., 55, High Holborn. Pattern-book with price-list, price 12s.

SLACKS' NICKEL ELECTRO PLATED, is a coating of Pure Silver over Nickel; a combination of two metals possessing such valuable properties, renders it in appearance and wear equal to sterling silver. Table Spoons or Forks, 80s. or 40s. per dozen; Desserts, 20s. and 30s.; Tea Spoons, 12s. and 18s.; Cruet Frames from 18s. Every article for the Table at equally low prices. A sample spoon forwarded on receipt of 20 Stamps. As the limits of an advertisement will not allow of a detailed list, purchasers are requested to send for their catalogue with 200 drawings, and prices of Electro Plate, Table Cutlery, Furnishing Ironmongery, &c. (may be had gratis, or post free). RICHARD and JOHN SLACK, 336, Strand. Slacks' Nickel can be had only at 336, Strand, opposite Somerset House.

MAPPINS' SUPERIOR TABLE-KNIVES, as made for the Crystal Palace, Sydenham; handles cannot possibly become loose; the blades are all of the very first quality, being their own Sheffield manufacture. Buyers supplied at their London Warehouse, 37, Moorgate Street, City; and Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

MAPPINS' "SHILLING" RAZOR, sold everywhere, warranted good by the Makers, JOSEPH MAPPIN and BROTHERS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield; and 37, Moorgate Street, City, London.

DO YOU DOUBLE UP YOUR PERAMBULATORS? If not, see T. TROTMAN'S PATENT FOLDING PERAMBULATOR for Infants and Invalids. Perambulators and Promenaders of all kinds on view.—Patent Carriage Works, High Street (Gate), Camden Town, London.

GLENFOLD PATENT STARCH, used in the Royal Laundry, and pronounced by her Majesty's laundress to be the Finest Starch she ever used. Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c., &c.

THE SPRING DRESSES.—Patterns Post-free.
Finest Swiss Cambrics, 3s. 6d. the Full Dress.
Finest Jaconets, 5s. 6d. do.
Finest Organdies, 7s. 6d. do.
Finest Silk and Wool Fabrics, 10s. 6d. do.
Rich French Silks, £1 1s. 6d. do.
Rich Flounced Silks, £2 3s. 6d. do.
Address to KING & Co., 243, Regent Street, London.

FAMILY MOURNING. EVERY REQUISITE FOR COURT, FAMILY, OR COMPLIMENTARY MOURNING, at moderate prices.—PETER ROBINSON'S Mourning Warehouse, No. 103, Oxford Street.

OPERA CLOAKS. PETER ROBINSON'S THREE LARGE SHOW-ROOMS, enable him to keep upwards of ONE THOUSAND.

from 17s. 6d., lined with silk. Printed designs post free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103, 105, 106, and 107, Oxford Street.

CITY JUVENILE DEPOT. LADIES' UNDER-CLOTHING WAREHOUSES. Ladies' Night Dresses, work warranted, 6 for 13s. 6d. Ladies' Chemises, 6 for 8s. 6d.; ditto Drawers, 6 for 8s. 6d. Long Cloth Slips, with handsome needlework, 4s. 11d. Higher class goods proportionately cheap, and the largest stock in London to select from.

Infants' Braided Cashmere Cloaks, 5s. 11d. to 16s. 6d. Fashionable Circular ditto, lined silk, 21s. 6d. Infants' Cashmere Hoods, elegantly braided, 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. Paris Wove Stays, 3s. 11d.; the New Corset, to fasten in front, 3s. 11d.; not obtainable elsewhere. An illustrated price-list sent free on application. Orders, enclosing a remittance, promptly attended to. W. H. TURNER, 67, 68, 69, and 70, Bishopsgate Street, Corner of Union Street, London.

A SINGLE STAY Carriage free to any part of the Country, On receipt of a Post-office Order; Waist measure only required. The ELASTIC BODICE, 12s. 6d. (Recommended by the Faculty). The SELF-ADJUSTING CORSET, 12s. 6d. The Super Couture Corset, 10s. 6d. Illustrated Books sent on receipt of a Postage-stamp. CARTER and HOUSTON, 90, Regent Street; 6, Blackfriars Road; 5, Stockwell Street, Greenwich; and Crystal Palace. Every article marked in plain figures.

TO LADIES.—Avoid Tight Lacing, and try W. CARTER'S COUTURE BODICES, 2s. 11d. to 6s. 11d. per pair; Cout Stays, 2s. 6d. to 5s. 11d.; Self-Lacing Stays, with patent busks, 12s. 6d. (this stay is unfashioned in a moment); Paris Wove Stays, 3s. 11d., any size required. Crenoline and Moreen Skirts are selling at 4s. 11d. to 10s. 6d.—Address, W. CARTER'S, 22, Ludgate Street (two doors from St. Paul's). Manufactory, 7, Newington Causeway, Borough.

PARIS WOVE STAYS, 3s. 6d. per pair, not to be equalled under 10s. 6d. Many thousands of pairs of these elegantly shaped corsets have been supplied to ladies residing in all parts of the Kingdom, and have given universal satisfaction. A sample pair any size sent on receipt of a post-office order.—F. T. BURDUS, importer, Kensington, near the gate. Waist measure only required.

MARION'S RESILIENT BODICE and CORSALETO DI MEDICI, recommended by physicians and surgeons in attendance on her Majesty, and adopted in their own families—combine firmness with elasticity, fit closely, fasten easily in front, and are adapted for every age and figure. Volumes of notes of approval attest the high estimation of ladies who wear them. Prospectus, post free. Ladies in town waited on to appointment.—Messdames MARION and MAITLAND, Patentees, 238, Oxford Street.

A BOON TO LADIES in the COUNTRY.—The RESILIENT BODICE and CORSALETO DI MEDICI are sent post-free, and without extra charge. It is by this liberal regulation, placing them within reach of every lady in the land, that they have become to thousands upon thousands not only a luxury, but a necessity, alike in regard to health, elegance, and convenience. Illustrated descriptive prospectus, details of prices, self-measurement papers, &c., post-free. Messdames MARION and MAITLAND, Patentees, 238, Oxford Street, opposite Park Lane.

THE SYDENHAM TROUSERS and Messrs. SAMUEL BROTHERS.—The SYDENHAM TROUSERS are fast acquiring an European reputation. The best materials, the self-adjusting principles on which they are constructed, and the exceedingly low price of 17s. 6d. a pair, are their recommendations. An immense sale alone enables Samuel Brothers to use the textures which they exclusively employ, and that sale they have secured. Quality and low price (real cheapness), obtained for them this patronage, and shall preserve it. SAMUEL BROTHERS, 29, Ludgate Hill. Patterns, &c., post free.

ECONOMY. RIMMEL'S BENZOLINE removes instantly all spots and stains from Silk Velvet, Cloth, Kid-Gloves, Carpets, &c., without injuring the most delicate colour or fabric. Sold in half-pint bottles, price 1s., by all the trade. E. RIMMEL, 39, Gerrard Street, Soho, London.

MARK YOUR LINEN.—THE PEN SUPERSEDED. The Most Easy, Permanent, and Best Method of Marking Linen, Silk, Cotton, Rough Towels, Blankets, &c., is with the PATENT ELECTRO-SILVER PLATES; by means of which a thousand articles can be marked in ten minutes. Any person can easily use them. Initial Plate, 1s.; Name Plate, 2s.; Crest Plate, 6s.; Set of Numbers, 2s. Sent free to any part of the Kingdom (on receipt of Stamps) by the Inventor and Sole Patentee, T. CULLETON, 2, Long Acre, one door from St. Martin's Lane.

HAIR-DYE.—Exhibition Medal and Honourable Mention was awarded to E. F. LANGDALE for his PREPARATIONS OF THE OXIDE OF AMYL. "To our mind, these are the most extraordinary productions of modern chemistry."—Illustrated London News, July 19, 1851. Post free, in cases, 3s. 9d., and 6s. 6d. The money returned if not satisfactory.—Laboratory, 72, Hatton Garden.

HAIR DESTROYER, 1, LITTLE QUEEN STREET, HIGH HOLBORN.

ALEX. ROSS'S DEPILATORY, for removing effectually superfluous hair from the face, neck, arms, and hands, without the slightest injury to the skin. A. R. will warrant it not to irritate the flesh in the smallest degree, and the hair to be entirely destroyed. Sold in bottles, at 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d.; or applied at the Hair Dyeing Establishment as above. Forwarded for stamps, carriage free, 8 extra.

GRAY HAIR.—A Book sent gratis respecting ALEX. ROSS'S Liquid Hair Dye, which is free from anything injurious, is easily applied, producing the highest brown possible, to the jettest black. It has been in use many years, and is much approved of. Sold from 3s. 6d., forwarded free for fifty-four stamps. Private rooms for dyeing the hair, and specimens to be seen, at ALEX. ROSS'S, W. G. Maker, 1, Little Queen Street, High Holborn.

BIJOU NEEDLE-CASE, containing 100 of DEANE'S DRILLED-EYED NEEDLES, forwarded post-free on receipt of Twelve Postage Stamps. DEANE, DRAY, and Co., London Bridge. Established A.D. 1700.

MOORE'S LEVER WATCHES, made on the premises, £5 5s., £6 6s., £7 7s. Gold do., £10. Gold Horizontally, £3 10s. Silver do., £2 2s. Levers, 10 holes Jewelled, £3 10s., warranted. 37, Holborn Hill. Established 1835. Brief elucidation of the Lever Watch, gratis.

SOVEREIGN LIFE OFFICE. 49, St. James's Street, London. Established 1814.

TRUSTEES.
The Earl Talbot. Sir Claude Scott, Bart.
Henry Pownall, Esq. B. Bond Cabell, Esq.
This office possesses a large paid-up and invested capital, while the claims by death scarcely exceed one-fifth of the premiums received.
Bonus:—£153 paid on a policy for £1,000 (effected in 1846), £123 was added to the amount assured in 1853. A bonus declared every third year.
Claims are paid three months after proof of death.
No charges are made except the premium.
H. D. DAVENPORT, Secretary.

ACTIVE AGENTS REQUIRED.

SIXTH DIVISION OF PROFITS. CLERICAL, MEDICAL, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 99, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury, London.

SPECIAL NOTICE. All persons who assure on the participating Scale before June 30th, 1856, will be entitled to a Share of the SIXTH BONUS, which will be declared in the January following. Proposals should be forwarded to the office before June 1st next.
The Thirty-first Annual Report (just issued) can be obtained of the Society's Agents, or of
GEO. H. PINCKARD, Resident Secretary.

LOANS at 5 per Cent., on Personal Security, in connection with Life Assurance. ENGLISH and FOREIGN LIFE OFFICE, 135, Oxford Street.

THE LION SLAYER AT HOME, 232, Piccadilly.—Mr. GORDON CUMMING describes eye-witness, except Saturday, at 8, what he saw and did in South Africa. Morning entertainments every Saturday at 3 o'clock. The pictures are painted by Messrs. Richard Leitch, Harrison Weir, George Thomas, Wolf, Charles Haghe, and Phillips. The music conducted by Mr. J. Colson. Admittance 1s., 2s., and 3s. The collection on view during the day, from 11 to 6, 1s. Children half-price in the reserved seats and stalls.

STEREOSCOPIC DEPARTMENT of the CRYSTAL PALACE.—London Agent: E. G. WOOD, 117, Cheapside, corner of Milk Street, London.—An inspection is invited of the extensive collection of subjects from the Crystal Palace, Sydenham; together with views of Paris, Italy, Switzerland, Pompeii, Algeria, &c. A great variety of groups and humorous subjects. Stereoscopes and 12 subjects complete, 6s., 7s. 6d., 10s., and 20s.

MAYALL'S PORTRAIT GALLERIES. 224, Regent Street, Photographs, Stereoscopes, and Daguerreotypes Taken Daily. Specimens on view.

PHOTOGRAPHY.—A Complete Apparatus £3, £5 5s., and £11 11s. Send for a list at GILBERT FLEMING'S, 498, New Oxford Street, Author of "First Steps in Photography," price 6d.; by post, 7d.

PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS Cheapest and Best at HOBCRAFT'S, 419, Oxford Street. A complete Apparatus for Portraits, 4½ inches, £2 10s. Mahogany Stereoscopes, 4s. 6d. Wholesale Price Lists post free.

WHOLESALE PHOTOGRAPHIC DEPOT. DANIEL M'MILLAN, 132, Fleet Street, London. Price List free on Application.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.—This celebrated Old Irish Whisky is highly recommended as the most delicious and wholesome spirit, either for mixing or for medicinal purposes. It is perfectly pure, very mild, and being mellowed with age, is free from those fiery or heating qualities so much objected to in other spirits. Can be obtained in sealed bottles, 3s. 6d. each, at all the respectable retail houses in London and its vicinity, from the appointed agents in the principal towns in England; or, wholesale, from KINAHAN, SONS, and SMYTH, 8, Great Windmill Street, Haymarket.

EAU DE VIE.—Decidedly more pure in its composition, more agreeable in its use, and more salutary in its effects, than Cognac brandy at double the price. Imperial gallon, 16s.; in French bottles, 34s. per dozen, bottles included; securely packed in a case for the country, 35s.—HENRY BRETZ and Co., Old Fumival's Distillery, Holborn.

UNSOPHISTICATED GIN.—The strongest allowed by law, of the true juniper flavour, and precisely as it runs from the still, without the addition of sugar or any ingredient whatever. Imperial gallon, 13s.; in pale glass bottles, 28s. per dozen, bottles included; securely packed in a case for the country, 29s.—HENRY BRETZ and Co., Old Fumival's Distillery, Holborn.

A Good FAMILY MEDICINE CHEST, with a prudent use, has saved many a life, and yet we think the idea might be improved upon, and reduced to a more simple form. Take some good compound, such as COCKLE'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS, and we find that the desired end may be obtained without scales and weights, or little mysterious compartments and enchanted bottles, with crystal stoppers. Others might be used, but Cockle's Pills, as tested by many thousands of persons, and found to answer their purpose so well, may be set down as the best.—Observer.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.—Asthma, Winter Cough, Hoarseness, Shortness of Breath, and other Pulmonary Maladies, effectually cured by these invaluable Lozenges.—Prepared and sold in Boxes and Tins, by THOMAS KEATING, 79, St. Paul's Churchyard, London. Sold by all Druggists, &c.

TIC DOLOREUX, or PAIN in the TEETH, FACE, HEAD, and LIMBS cured. "I have much pleasure in adding my testimony to the extraordinary efficacy of S. BARLOW'S Powders. John B. Pease, North Lodge, Dartington." "These Powders work wonders in my neighbourhood. Rev. Kennet C. Bayley, Copford Rectory, Colchester." Reference to Clergymen and others in most towns in the Kingdom.

These celebrated powders sent post paid for 2s. 9d. in Stamps, by SAMUEL BARLOW, Chemist, Dartington.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS will, if used according to the printed direction, readily cure any case of indigestion. Sold by all medicine venders throughout the world, and at PROFESSOR HOLLOWAY'S establishments, 224, Strand, London; and 80, Maiden Lane, New York.

THE HYGEIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINE. REASONS for a MONUMENT to JAMES MORRISON, the Hygienist. By JOHN FRASER, of Edinburgh. May be had gratis at the British College of Health, New Road, London; and by post on enclosing a penny stamp.

HOWARD'S ENAMEL for the TEETH. Price ONE SHILLING. For stopping decayed Teeth, however large the cavity. It is placed in the tooth in a soft state without any pressure or pain, and immediately hardens into a White Enamel; it will remain in the tooth many years, rendering extraction unnecessary, and arresting the further progress of decay. Sold by SANGER, 150, Oxford Street; HANNAY, 63, Oxford Street; SAVORY, 230, Regent Street; BUTLER, 4, Cheapside; and all Medicine Venders in the Kingdom. Price One Shilling.

LONDON: Printed by JOHN ROSS, of 148, Fleet Street, at 15, Gough Square, in the Parish of St. Dunstan, in the City of London, and Published by him at 148, Fleet Street, in the Parish and City aforesaid.—SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1856.